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25 June 1982

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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KAMPUCHEA

COMMUNICATIONS GROUP RETURNS FROM NORTHEASTERN VISIT

BK051555 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Text] After successfully completing its visit to the northeastern region, a delegation of the Ministry of Communications, Transport and Posts led by Minister Khun Chhy returned to Phnom Penh on 4 June.

During their stay in the northeastern region, Comrade Minister Khun Chhy, head of the delegation, and the entire delegation inspected national routes 7, 13 and 19, the (O Krieng) bridge and the port in Kratie Province, the (O Preah) bridge and the airfield in Stung Treng Province, the (O Tang) bridge in Ratanakiri Province and various national highways and provincial trails in Mondolkiri Province which were damaged by the U.S. war of aggression and wantonly sabotaged by the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan gang.

At the same time, the delegation thoroughly discussed and exchanged views with the people's revolutionary committees of Kratie, Stung Treng, Ratanakiri and Mondolkiri provinces regarding the repair and construction of roads, bridges, airfields and river ports in order to facilitate travel and the transportation of goods for distribution to all remote rural areas for the benefit of the people of the northeast.

The delegation also visited the people and minorities living in the northeastern region and conveyed the greetings of the party and government.

Through this visit by the delegation of the Ministry of Communications, Transport and Posts, the population of the northeastern region can clearly see the care and attention accorded it by the party, front and Council of Ministers. This has made our brothers in this region more confident in and proud of our party and government and has sharpened their determination to fight and win in building and defending the country toward socialism.

CSO: 4212/20

EDITORIAL PROMOTES TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

BK061323 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 5 Jun 82

["Kampuchea" editorial: "Communications and Transportation in Our Cause of Our Kampuchean Revolution"--date not given]

[Summary] Communications and transportation is an important sector of the economy as it helps to promote production. Weakened by the Pol Pot regime and poorly equipped, our transportation workers have become more innovating and creative. In 1981, thanks to the assistance of friends, they have succeeded in transporting goods from Kompong Som port and distributing them in the northeastern region. "They also managed to distribute relief materials to drought and flood-victims last year on a timely basis and did an excellent job of transporting supplies and materiel for our frontline combatants by bringing them 307,758 tons of goods. Such results have won our party, front and government the confidence of the people.

Our cadres and workers of the transportation service have displayed a great determination to perform their jobs well. "Nevertheless, in the current situation in which the revolution is advancing steadily, we cannot be careless or complacent. The faster the revolution progresses, the more developed the production movement and the greater the needs of the people will be. For this reason, transportation is becoming more difficult and complex and requires advanced skills, greater professionalism and sharper determination of the working class concerned." In order to fulfill the 1982 plan, the communications and transportation service at all levels must fully develop the locally existing materials in addition to the participation of the masses. "In the recent past, the people of a number of provinces such as Kompong Thom, Kampot, Takeo, Kandal and so on took the initiative in repairing and building roads without using the state budget, thereby successfully improving transportation."

We advise the following: Do not remain indifferent to the state of the transportation service; do not let difficulties arise before attempting to wipe them out; concentrate on waterway transportation as it is relatively inexpensive; properly and creatively use all primitive transportation means, such as carts,

elephants, horses and rafts; avoid unplanned and wasteful use of transportation means; uphold the sense of thrift; make tools last as long as possible and use them efficiently; and eliminate extravagancy, irresponsibility and theft.

"All localities must raise their sense of vigilance and be resolute in defending communications lines against enemy sabotage attempts. In case of interruption, for whatever reason, efforts should be made to repair, rebuild or relink the lines as soon as possible. Do not wait for the intervention of the central or provincial authorities. Armed forces assigned to protect communications lines must grasp the importance of their role and they must not impede traffic without a good reason."

The transportation service must properly reward those who are outstanding in work and punish those who are bad and set up core groups and model figures to boost performance. Good plans and scientific procedures are important for the success of this sector.

CSO: 4212/20

SOY KEO ATTENDS 26 MAY PEDAGOGIC COURSE

BK290417 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] On the afternoon of 26 May, the army cultural school organized a ceremony to close a pedagogic course attended by almost 30 teachers from various units throughout the country.

Present on that occasion were Comrade Soy Keo, member of the KPRP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the KPRAF General Staff; Comrade (Bun Sang), deputy chief of the KPRAF General Logistics Department and chief of the technical department; Comrade (An Sum), chief of the Propaganda and Education Department; female comrade Khun Nget, head of the Adult Education Directorate; and many cadres of the National Defense Ministry and teachers representing the Education Ministry.

In his report summing up the results of the course, Comrade Chea Saran, director of the KPRAF Cultural School, highly praised the efforts made by the trainees and teachers to study and teach. Therefore, this pedagogic and cultural course was 100 percent successful as wished. Among those in attendance, 70 percent of the trainees were rated at the skilled level. During the teaching training, 55 percent of the students were rated at the skilled level and the others were rated at the average level. The comrade director of the school stressed that the successes of this second pedagogic course were made possible due to the complete assistance of the Education Ministry and the guidance of various comrades experts working in the school.

Comrade Soy Keo took the floor and presented advice to the student teachers. He stressed that in order to modernize our KPRAF, cadres and combatants of all three branches of our armed forces must demonstrate high cultural standards which facilitate the study of politics and military techniques. This will improve the conditions of our armed forces and make it a modern army to defend Kampuchean territorial integrity and contribute to the defense of peace in Southeast Asia.

Later on, a representative of the trainees took the floor and expressed his determination that when he and his colleagues return to their units they will make every effort to teach their fellow combatants in their local units.

In conclusion, the school authorities handed over congratulatory letters and a number of trophies to teachers and trainees which consisted of 30 percent of those involved in this course who showed excellent performances in teaching and studying. This ceremony was closed in a joyful atmosphere. All trainees were determined to fulfill their duty to improve the cultural knowledge of the armed forces.

CSO: 4212/20

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

MONGOLIAN AMBASSADOR RECEIVED--Phnom Penh, 26 Apr (SPK)--On Sunday, 25 April, Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, received Mongolian Ambassador Legdengiyn Damdinjab. Chairman Chan Si spoke of the sabotage maneuvers of Chinese expansionism in collusion with U.S. imperialism and reactionary Khmer groups against the Kampuchean revolution and of the relations of friendship and solidarity between Kampuchea and Vietnam. He said that these maneuvers would be doomed to failure. He mentioned the great successes achieved by the peoples of Kampuchea, Vietnam, Laos, the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries. On behalf of the party, government and people of Kampuchea, Chairman Chan Si expressed his gratitude to the party, government and people of Mongolia for their valuable aid to the Kampuchean people. This aid has contributed to deepening the relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between Kampuchea and Mongolia. The Mongolian ambassador praised the Kampuchean people for their rapid progress and stressed that this progress would serve as a base for the advance of the Kampuchean revolution. L. Damdinjab reasserted the support of Mongolia to the Indochinese peoples. Both parties talked of measures to consolidate and expand the relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between Kampuchea and Mongolia. [Text] [BK271036 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0413 GMT 26 Apr 82]

CSSR NATIONAL DAY MEETING--Phnom Penh, 12 May (SPK)--A meeting sponsored by the Kampuchea-USSR [as received] Friendship Association was held in Phnom Penh on Sunday, 10 May, to commemorate the 37th National Day of the CSSR. In his speech, Minh Khin, deputy secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council and secretary general of the association, thanked the CSSR for the material and moral support given to Kampuchea. The CSSR ambassador's representative, Devan Dusan, recalled the cooperation between the CSSR and the USSR in their anti-Nazi struggle and affirmed that the CSSR's great successes were due to the support of the Soviet party and people. Pen Navouth, minister of education and vice-chairman of the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Association, and Yit Kim Seng, minister of health, also attended the meeting. [BK131231 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1448 GMT 12 May 82 BK]

GREETINGS ON CSSR NATIONAL DAY--Phnom Penh, 10 May (SPK)--On the occasion of the 37th National Day of the CSSR, Meas Saman, chairman of the Kampuchean Women's Association, sent her sincere and warm congratulations to the CSSR women's committee. Meas Saman expressed her profound gratitude for the material and moral assistance and support provided by the people of the CSSR to the Kampuchean people in building a new, independent, free, democratic and progressive Kampuchea. She wished that relations between the two countries would continue to develop for their own interest and for that of world peace. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 10 May 82 BK]

CSSR PHOTO EXHIBITION--Phnom Penh, 7 May (SPK)--On the occasion of CSSR's 37th National Day an exhibition sponsored by the Ministry of Information and Culture and the CSSR Embassy was opened in Phnom Penh on Thursday, 6 May. Chheng Phon, minister of information and culture, attended the opening ceremony. Petr Janeck, acting charge d'affaires of CSSR to Kampuchea, and other diplomats accredited to Phnom Penh were also present. On display were some 300 photos reflecting progress made in CSSR during the past 37 years after the destructions of World War II. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1450 GMT 6 May 82 BK]

YOUTH DELEGATION TO MOSCOW--Phnom Penh, 13 May (SPK)--At the invitation of the Leninist Communist Youth Union of the USSR (Komsomol), a delegation of the Kampuchean youth led by Nuch Than, chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization, left Phnom Penh today for Moscow. The delegation will participate in the 19th congress of Soviet Youths. It was seen off at its departure by cadres of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization. O. V. Bostorin, ambassador of the USSR, was present. [Text] [BK151235 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1429 GMT 13 May 82 BK]

TU DELEGATION TO MONGOLIA--Phnom Penh, 14 May (SPK)--At the invitation of the Mongolian Trade Unions Central Council, a Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions delegation led by Um Mean, member of the Executive Committee and chief of the external relations department, left Phnom Penh on Thursday, 13 May, to attend the 12th trade unions congress of Mongolia. Personalities of the Federation of the Trade Unions went to see the delegation off at Pochentong Airport. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0403 GMT 14 May 82 BK]

INFORMATION GROUPS DEPART--Phnom Penh, 21 May (SPK)--A delegation of the Ministry of Information and Culture led by Minister Chheng Phon left Phnom Penh on Thursday (20 May) to attend, in Moscow, the 7th international film festival of Asian, African and Latin American countries at the invitation of its organizing committee. Cadres of the Ministry of Information and Culture went to Pochentong Airport to see the delegation off. The presence of Oleg Bostorin, Soviet ambassador to Kampuchea, was also noted. Another delegation led by Iev Ponnaka, chief of the motion picture department, left on the same day for Moscow, where the Kampuchean produced documentary film "Bouquet of Wish" will be shown. [Text] [BK210811 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 21 May 82]

SRV PUBLISHING OFFICIALS--Phnom Penh, 26 May (SPK)--On Tuesday, 26 May, Pen Navouth, Kampuchean minister of education, received in audience in Phnom Penh a Vietnamese delegation led by Phan Nhu Cuong, deputy director of the VCP Central Committee Commission for Science and Education. The two sides discussed their experiences in writing and publishing geography, history, literary and political books. [Text] [BK270552 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1432 GMT 26 May 82]

RADIO DELEGATION IN LAOS--Phnom Penh, 17 May (SPK)--A delegation from the Voice of the Kampuchean People led by its director Un Dara arrived recently in Laos. It was received in audience by Sisana Sisan, the Lao minister for propaganda, information, culture and tourism. The Kampuchean National Radio delegation and that of the Lao Radio and Television Service discussed their experiences and talked about expanding the professional cooperation between the two services. [Text] [BK170657 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 17 May 82]

LAO, VIETNAMESE ARTISTS GREETED--Phnom Penh, 26 May (SPK)--On Monday, 24 May, Bou Thang, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission, received in audience in Phnom Penh a number of Vietnamese and Lao artists who were attending the traditional music festival of the Indochinese countries. Bou Thang highly praised the successes of the festival, the first of this kind, which, he said, confirms the proper character of the culture and civilization of each country. The traditional arts of the Indochinese countries, created by the people, serve their interests by respecting the principles of socialist culture. The festival has enabled the three Indochinese peoples to consolidate their ties of friendship, which bind them to each other, Bou Thang stressed. The Vietnamese and Lao artists have already left Phnom Penh. [Text] [BK270757 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1438 GMT 26 May 82]

MESSAGE ON NICARAGUAN FLOOD--Phnom Penh, 6 Jun (SPK)--Recently, Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a sympathy message to Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution and coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The message said notably: We heard with deep regret about the major damage caused by the recent flood in your fatherland which devastated buildings, educational establishments, hospitals, bridges, communications lines and deprived tens of thousands of inhabitants of their shelter. In the name of the Kampuchean Government and people, we would like to express our deep regret. Would you please accept and confer to the government and the victims our sentiments of lasting solidarity in this tragic disaster. [Text] [BK060549 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0352 GMT 6 Jun 82]

PHOTO EXHIBITION--Phnom Penh, 1 Jun (SPK)--A photo exhibition on Kampuchean children sponsored by the Ministry of Information and Culture and the Kampuchean Press Agency, SPK, was opened in Phnom Penh today on the occasion of International Children's Day. Chairman of the Council of Ministers Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, cut the inaugural ribbon

following a speech by Men Saman, vice chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission. Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State; Men Chhan, vice chairman of the FUFNCD National Council; and other personalities of the KPRP and Council of Ministers attended the opening. Members of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to Phnom Penh were also present. Eighty photographs taken by SPK photographers show various activities of Kampuchean children since liberation under the tender care of the whole people. [Text] [BK021026 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1435 GMT 1 Jun 82]

CHILDREN'S DAY SPEECH--Phnom Penh, 4 Jun (SPK)--The public services and authorities at various levels have been urged to pay particular attention to and create favorable conditions for children's physical and moral education. During the commemoration of International Children's Day on 1 June in Phnom Penh sponsored by the Central Propaganda and Education Commission, the chairman of the commission, Bou Thang, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, emphasized the role played by children in national reconstruction. Bou Thang advised children to accomplish the "five goods" and to eliminate the "five bads" in order to fulfill their tasks as inheritors of the revolutionary cause, he emphasized. On Wednesday, 2 June, Men Saman, vice chairman of the commission, visited orphans in Trapeang Veng village, Trapeang Kong commune, Samraong Tong District, Kompong Speu Province, 50 km southwest of Phnom Penh. Men Saman offered clothes, school materials and toys to the orphans. Up to now, more than 1.5 million children attend first grade schools and 100,000 are in kindergartens. Some 126,000 orphans are well cared for in 40 orphanages all over the country. More than 30,000 of them are recognized as pioneers. One hundred and ten children, of whom 75 are orphans, attend artistic courses at the fine arts school. Children have set up their own orchestras, singing groups, modern and traditional dance groups and some of them attend ballet classes. [Text] [BK040947 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0416 GMT 4 Jun 82]

U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS PRODUCTION--Phnom Penh, 8 Jun (SPK)--On the occasion of the second special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament, the KUFNCD National Council organized a ceremony chaired by Front Vice Chairman Superior Bronze Tep Vong in Phnom Penh, on 7 June. Min Khin, front deputy secretary general in charge of religious affairs, expressed the Kampuchean people's aspirations for peace and called for an immediate end to the U.S. imperialists' production of nuclear arms. He declared support for the initiatives of the Asian Buddhist Council for Peace on a total destruction of nuclear arms. NATO deployment of new medium-range missiles in Europe and the increased production of chemical weapons by Washington are provocative factors against the stability in Europe and the world. Superior Bonze Tep Vong said that the PRK unites with the Vietnamese, Lao and Soviet peoples and other socialist countries in their struggle against the imperialists and condemns the U.S. decision to accelerate the manufacture of nuclear arms. [Text] [BK091017 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1422 GMT 8 Jun 82]

WFDY DELEGATION LEAVES--Phnom Penh, 23 Apr (SPK)--The delegation of the World Federation of Democratic Youth [WFDY] journalists led by Ahmad Ayach of Lebanese nationality left Phnom Penh on Thursday, 22 April, at the end of its 4-day visit to Kampuchea. It was seen off by cadres of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization. It was received by Nuch Than, chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization; and Kong Korm, deputy minister of foreign affairs. During their stay, the WFDY journalists visited the Tuol Sleng school-prison, the mass graves at Cheung Ek, the orphanage No 1 and the health establishments. [Text] [BK231438 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0359 GMT 23 Apr 82]

SRV RICE HUSKING MACHINE--Phnom Penh, 20 Apr (SPK)--A rice husking station donated by the Vietnamese province of Long An was inaugurated at Kilometer Market No 6 in the northern suburb of Phnom Penh on Monday [19 April]. Poun Ponloe, deputy minister of trade attended the opening ceremony. Nguyen Hoa, counselor of the Vietnamese Embassy in Phnom Penh, was present. The rice husking machine turns out 15 tons of rice in 8 hours. [Text] [BK211341 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1437 GMT 20 Apr 82 BK]

WATERWAY TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITIES--Phnom Penh, 19 Apr (SPK)--Workers of the Waterway Transportation Service and dockers of the ports of Phnom Penh and Kompong Som have intensified their activities during the past few months. In March, the service transported more than 1,000 tons of goods from Phnom Penh to Kratie and Siem Reap Provinces and 1,340 tons of paddy from Kompong Cham to Phnom Penh. During the same period the dockers of the port of Phnom Penh unloaded 3,400 tons of goods. The port of Kompong Som loaded approximately 5,000 tons of goods on trucks and nearly 4,000 tons of goods on ships and some 17,000 tons of goods have been stored in warehouses. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 19 Apr 82 BK]

AMBASSADOR TO CUBA--Phnom Penh, 24 Apr (SPK)--Long Visalo, PRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Cuba, on 15 April presented in Havana his credentials to Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State. On this occasion, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez expressed Cuba's firm support for Kampuchea and stressed his will to deepen cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [BK250845 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 24 Apr 82 BK]

WFDY JOURNALISTS--Phnom Penh, 22 Apr (SPK)--Nuch Than, chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization, on Wednesday, 21 April, held talks with the visiting World Federation of Democratic Youth journalists delegation led by Ahmad Ayach of Lebanese nationality. Nuch Than informed the visitors of the successes won by the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth under the leadership of the KPRP during the past 3 years since liberation. The Kampuchean youth, he said, actively contribute to the defense and reconstruction of the country, particularly in agricultural production. On his part, Ahmad Ayach pledged to acquaint the Lebanese people and public opinion with the realities in Kampuchea. The WFDY, he said, would like to consolidate its relations of solidarity with the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Organization. [Text] [BK221223 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0403 GMT 22 Apr 82]

GDR EDUCATION GROUP--Phnom Penh, 28 Apr (SPK)--Minister of Education Pen Navouth on Tuesday, 27 April, received in audience the GDR education delegation led by Gunter Bernhard, secretary of state for superior and technical education. Pen Navouth talked about the progress in the educational domain, saying that it is a result of the enormous efforts of the Kampuchean Teachers Corps under the KPRP's correct leadership. He dealt with the project of enlarging the educational sector in the future. He expressed his gratitude to the GDR people for their material and spiritual aid to the Kampuchean people, especially in the educational field. Gunter Bernhard highly praised the rapid educational development in Kampuchea and affirmed that the educational cooperation between Kampuchea and the GDR will be further enlarged and consolidated. GDR ambassador to Kampuchea Rolf Dach was present at the meeting. [Text] [BK290807 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1436 GMT 28 Apr 82]

BULGARIAN ECONOMIC GROUP--Phnom Penh, 28 Apr (SPK)--A Kampuchean economic delegation led by Minister of Agriculture Kong Samol held talks in Phnom Penh on Tuesday, 27 April, with the Bulgarian economic delegation led by Minister of Forests and Forest Industry Yanko Markov. The two delegations discussed cooperation between the two countries. Minister Kong Samol talked about economic development in Kampuchea and, for his part, Bulgarian delegation head Yanko Markov affirmed that the Bulgarian people will continue to give aid and support to the Kampuchean people. [Text] [BK290809 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1434 GMT 28 Apr 82]

AID TO REPATRIATED FAMILIES--Phnom Penh, 23 May (SPK)--The Kampuchean Red Cross recently distributed UNHCR aid to 4,750 families returning from refugee camps in Thailand. At present, they are staying in Kralanh, Samraong and Banteay Ampil districts, Siem Reap Province, and Thmar Puok District, Battambang Province. They received cutting utensils and agricultural and carpenter's tools. The Red Cross of Battambang Province, 250 km northwest of Phnom Penh, distributed clothes, mosquito nets, foodstuffs and domestic utensils to 1,920 repatriated families in Battambang and Preah Net Preah districts and in the capital city of Battambang Province. [Text] [BK271205 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1431 GMT 23 May 82 BK]

HO CHI MINH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS--Phnom Penh, 21 May (SPK)--The Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Association and the Soviet cultural center held a meeting in Phnom Penh on Thursday, 20 May, to honor Ho Chi Minh's 92d birthday. Talks on the life and works of the late president were organized for the benefit of personnel from various department at the central level. The Ministry of Information and Culture screened films on the life and revolutionary activities of President Ho Chi Minh. Mass meetings were held in different provinces such as Battambang to mark the late president's birthday. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1437 GMT 21 May 82 BK]

KAMPOT'S INFORMATION, CULTURE SERVICE--Phnom Penh, 24 May (SPK)--The Information and Culture Service of Kampot Province recently held a meeting to review its 1981 activities and set targets for the next period. Chheng Phon, minister of information and culture, was present at the meeting. In the past year, the service carried out its mass agitation work by encouraging the people to promote production, wipe out illiteracy, participate in the strengthening of people's power and consolidate the Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos international solidarity. For 1982, the meeting decided to intensify the mass agitation work among the people against the enemy's psychological warfare and to urge them to increase agricultural production and strengthen international solidarity with Vietnam, Laos, the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries. [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 24 May 82 BK]

GIFT OF CSSR BOOKS--A ceremony to hand over a quantity of the CSSR books to Kampuchea was held at the National Library on 21 May in presence of Janeck, CSSR charge d'affaires; and Ros Ren, chief of the mobile information service and mass culture department. Janeck spoke on the Czechoslovak people's spirit of proletarian internationalism reflected by this sincere distribution of books to the Kampuchean people, and appraised the firm relations and cooperation between Kampuchea and the CSSR. Ros Ren thanked the Czechoslovak party, government and people for their support and assistance, materially and morally, to the Kampuchean revolution. [BK271205 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 22 May 82 BK]

RAILWAY TRACK CUT--On 15 May, our army and guerrillas cut 20 portions of railway track for a total of 800 meters between (Kbal Sav) and (Kaoh Cha), Moung Battlefield. Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Moung Battlefield. [Text] [BK220852 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 21 May 82]

RADIO DELEGATION RETURNS--The PRK Radio delegation led by Comrade Van Sunheng, acting director general of the Voice of the Kampuchean People Radio Station, returned safely to the fatherland at 1115 on 27 May following its successful visits to the Soviet Union, the Hungarian People's Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Many cadres from the Voice of the Kampuchean People Radio Station went to welcome the delegation at Pochentong Airport. [Text] [BK280939 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 27 May 82]

STOUNG DISTRICT SCHOOLS VISITED--On 2 April Education Minister Comrade Pen Navouth went to Stoung District in Kompong Thom Province, where he spent the whole day visiting the kindergartens, the second cycle education schools and the adult education schools at Phum Chheuteal and Phum (Meat Kong). The comrade minister exhorted the school committees, parents' associations, teachers and the village and commune people's revolutionary committees on the usefulness of education and the value of knowledge to each person in his daily life and in serving the national construction work. The comrade stressed: uneducated persons are like a blind man who knows nothing. This was the reason that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique used the uneducated and ignorant persons to massacre more than 3 million fellow people.

illiteracy is a great danger to our revolution. For this reason, as genuine socialist we must totally eradicate this danger of illiteracy. On behalf of the party and government, the comrade presented gifts composed of clothing, workbooks and ball-point pens to various associations. On the same day, the comrade minister attended a meeting at the first cycle education school in Kompong Chen which was organized by the teaching staff, students and people. During the meeting, the comrade minister spoke on the genuine socialist system of Marxism-Leninism and the bogus revolution of the traitorous Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique, which followed Maoism. At the same time, the comrade minister commended Stoung District for development in all fields, including education. [Text] [BK281551 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 27 May 82]

RADIO DELEGATION RETURNS--The delegation of the Voice of the Kampuchean People Radio led by its director general, Comrade Un Dara, returned to the fatherland at 1100 on 31 May after paying a successful visit to the LPDR. Welcoming the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Van Sunheng, acting director general and deputy director general of the Voice of the Kampuchean People Radio; many cadres and personnel; and Comrade Khamphan Vilachit, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PRK. [Text] [BK010213 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 31 May 82]

CSO: 4212/20

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ATTENDS VIENTIANE CHILDREN'S DAY RALLY

BK060938 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Feature: "The 1 June 1982 Festival in Vientiane"]

[Summary] Under the new regime, Lao children have been provided with proper care, and have been well treated, educated and trained to become good citizens so that they can successfully pursue the revolutionary cause in the future. Over the past 6 years or so since the establishment of the LPDR, additional nurseries and kindergartens have been set up throughout the country. A celebration is organized on 1 June of every year in Vientiane to mark the International Children's Day. As in previous years, this year the organizing committee for the celebration of the International Children's Day held a grand rally at the Vientiane Theater. A large number of children, youths, nursemaids and kindergarten teachers as well as parents and people in general attended the rally.

"Attending the celebration as guests of honor were Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, deputy prime minister, minister of education, sports and religious affairs, and chairman of the National Committee for the Children's Welfare; Mrs Khampheng Boupha, member of the LPRP Central Committee, chairman of the Patriotic Lao Women's Association, and vice chairman of the National Committee for Children's Welfare; and Phao Phimhachan, chairman of the Vientiane Municipal Administrative Committee."

Phao Phimhachan delivered a speech in which he pointed out the care, education and training provided for the children in Vientiane Municipality, over the past 6 years under the LPRP's leadership. "He stressed that everyone has the duty and responsibility of contributing to stepping up fostering, educating, training and raising the children to be strong and wise so that they deserve to be precious offspring of the nation."

After presenting gifts to the children, Deputy Prime Minister Phoumi Vongvichit addressed the rally. "He wholeheartedly hailed the past achievements in taking care of mothers and in fostering, educating and training children throughout Vientiane Municipality. He said: Only under the new, socialist system has attention been paid to educating and training the children to be good."

This is because this system regards the people as the precious capital of the nation. The party and state have always paid attention to protecting children since their birth, and they have gradually built them to become new, socialist men.

"In conclusion, Phoumi Vongvichit called on all parties concerned, including parents, brothers, sisters and all of the children's relatives, to pay attention to the necessary tasks--for example, the task of consolidating nurseries and kindergarten teachers, nurses, doctors, administrative committess and mass organizations in fostering, educating and training the children in both the urban and rural areas to be healthy, to maintain a patriotic spirit and a spirit of cherishing the new, socialist system and the party and state leaders, to maintain revolutionary virtues, and to cherish the studies, labor and progress. Children must be educated, trained and raised to be wise so as to deserve to be the persons who will pursue the revolutionary cause in the future."

Afterwards, a representative of the parents took the floor pledging to strive to take even better care of their children. A representative of the children also pledged they would be good children, obey instructions from their parents and teachers and positively train and foster themselves to become new, socialist men.

Art and literature performances were staged by children from various kindergartens at the Vientiane Theater that evening to celebrate this occasion.

CSO: 4206/52

BRIEFS

GDR OFFICIAL GREETED--Vientiane, 4 Jun (KPL)--Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and minister for foreign affairs yesterday thanked Oskar Fischer, minister for foreign affairs of the German Democratic Republic, for the latter's congratulations on Phoun Sipaseut's reelection as Political Bureau member. Phoun Sipaseut seized this occasion to wish the strengthening of the fraternal friendship and cooperation between Laos and the GDR. [Text] [BK041027 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 4 Jun 82]

PHONSALY AGRICULTURAL TAX--Vientiane, 10 Apr (KPL)--More than 820 tons of paddy were recently paid as agricultural tax to the state by local farmers of Phonsaly Province. Another 10 tons of paddy was sold to the state by farmers of Outhoumphone District, Savannakhet Province. [Text] [BK130350 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 10 Apr 82 BK]

MORE REFUGEES RETURN--Vientiane, 27 May (OANA-KPL)--Fifty-two more Lao refugees misled by counterrevolutionary propaganda, on May 25, volunteered to return home from refugee camps in Thailand. Present at the welcoming ceremony organized in Hatsaifong District, approximately 20 km south of Vientiane Province, were officials from the Administrative Committee of Vientiane Municipality and those of the National Committee for Social Security and War Veterans. Representatives of UN High Commission for Refugees to Laos and Thailand, as well as Thai Nong Khai provincial authorities and Thai Embassy personnel were also on hand. [Text] [BK271300 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 27 May 82]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GDR--Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)--The Lao and GDR ministries of foreign affairs, on May 8, signed here the 1982-83 cooperation agreement. Signing for the Lao side was Khamphai Bouppha, acting minister of foreign affairs, and signing for the GDR side was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the GDR to Laos Dieter Doering. The signing of this agreement is to strengthen and enlarge the solidarity, the friendly relations and the cooperation between the ministries of foreign affairs of both countries. [Text] [BK100643 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 10 May 82 BK]

PHONG SALY-LAI CHAU TRADE PROTOCOL--Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)--The Lao northeastern province of Phong Saly and the Vietnamese Lai Chau Province recently signed a trade protocol. The protocol which aimed to implement the trade agreement between the two sister provinces was signed by Vichan, in charge of the Phong Saly Trade Company, and his Vietnamese counterpart Tran Luong. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 10 May 82 BK]

WOMEN DELEGATION TO VIETNAM--Vientiane, 18 May (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Patriotic Women's Association led by its vice president, Mrs Khamsouk Vongvichit, left here yesterday for Hanoi to attend the 5th congress of the Vietnam Womens Union. The congress will be held from May 19 to 24. [Text] [BK191501 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 18 May 82 BK]

ROAD REPAIR IN SAVANNAKHET--Vientiane, 18 May (KPL)--A 40-km long road linking Taleo and Vangsoung villages in Savannakhet Province is under reparation since last month. The road repair works is due to be finished soon. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 18 May 82 BK]

NEW JAPANESE ENVOY--Vientiane, 26 May (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, vice premier, minister of education, sports and religious affairs, yesterday received the newly-appointed Japanese ambassador to Laos, Yoshinao Odaka. On this occasion, the Lao leader wished the ambassador much success in the fulfillment of his diplomatic mission here in view to strengthen the friendship relations between the LPDR and Japan. [Text] [BK261020 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 26 May 82]

HA SON BINH PROVINCE DELEGATION--Vientiane, 20 May (KPL)--A delegation of Ha Son Binh Province of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, led by its party vice secretary and chairman of the people's committee, Nguyen Trong Theu, on May 18 paid a friendship visit to Lao northern Luang Prabang Province. During its stay in Luang Prabang, the Vietnamese delegation of the party and administrative committees held cordial talks with Lao officials on the enhancement of special friendship relations and large-scale cooperation between the two sister provinces. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0934 GMT 20 May 82 BK]

VIETNAMESE-BUILT BRICK FACTORY--Vientiane, 21 May (KPL)--The Vietnamese Quang Nam-da Nang Province recently handed over a brick factory to its sister Lao southern province of Saravane. The brick factory whose cost of construction was 250,000 kip can produce 15,000 bricks per day. Quang Nam-da Nang Province helped built the factory. The two provinces have signed several bilateral agreements on cooperation. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0944 GMT 21 May 82 BK]

HIGHWAY BRIDGES REPAIRED--Vientiane, 20 May (KPL)--Two bridges on Highway No 13 linking Vientiane and Luang Prabang Provinces were recently repaired by public servants and local people of Kasi District, Vientiane Province. The repair work of these two 80 X 4m bridges can save nearly 80,000 kip from the state annual budget. The two bridges are now open. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0938 GMT 20 May 82 BK]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM GDR--Vientiane, 29 May (OANA/KPL)--The delegation of the Foreign Ministry, led by its secretary general, Soulivong Phasitthidet on May 25 returned here after attending the conference on arms reduction. The deputy foreign ministers conference of the socialist countries was held in Berlin of the GDR from May 17 to 18. [Text] [BK010545 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 29 May 82 BK]

CULTURAL DELEGATION TO BERLIN--Vientiane, 31 May (OANA/KPL)--A Lao delegation led by Paseut Sisanon head of fine arts department, left Vientiane on May 29 to the German Democratic Republic. The delegation is due to participate in the 7th international summer training course on cultural fields which will be held from June 1 to 24 in Berlin. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 31 May 82 BK]

GDR TRADE UNION DELEGATION--Vientiane, 31 May (OANA/KPL)--A delegation of the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions led by its CC member Klaus Mensel left here on May 29 after concluding its 2-week official visit. During its stay here, the delegation gave a series of lectures on trade union work and called on the president of the Federation of Lao Trade Unions, Sanan Souththichak, who is also member of the party CC. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 31 May 82 BK]

CZECHOSLOVAK GIFTS--Vientiane, 29 May (OANA/KPL)--The Czechoslovak-Laos Friendship Association on May 27 handed over here acoustic equipment to its Lao counterpart. Czechoslovak ambassador to Laos Ladislav Kocsis, representing the Czechoslovak-Laos Friendship Association, presented the gifts to Ounheuan Phoumsavat, deputy minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism and vice chairman of the Lao-Czechoslovak Friendship Association. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 29 May 82 BK]

DELEGATION TO FAO CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 31 May (OANA/KPL)--A Lao delegation of agriculture led by its deputy minister, Khamphet Phommavan, this morning left for Jakarta. The delegation is to attend the 16th regional conference of FAO scheduled to be held on June 1 to 12. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 31 May 82 BK]

MORE REFUGEES RETURN--Vientiane, 20 May (KPL)--Thirty-four Lao refugees were officially given a warm welcome recently in southern Champassak Province. Present at the ceremony were officials of Lao Champassak and Thai Ubon Ratchathani provinces. Also on hand were officials of the National Social Security and War Veterans and the representatives of the UN [High Commission] for Refugees to Laos and Thailand. [Text] [BK201203 Vientiane KPL in English 0939 GMT 20 May 82]

AVIATION DELEGATION TO SRV--Vientiane, 2 Jun (KPL)--A Lao delegation of the Civil Aviation Department led by its head, Phoun Khammounheuang, arrived here on May 31 from Vietnam. The delegation had assisted in the Indochinese countries conference on civil aviation held on Ho Chi Minh City of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. [Text] [BK021206 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 2 Jun 82]

CUBAN POSTAL DELEGATION--Vientiane, 29 May (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of post office of Cuba arrived here on May 27 for an official and friendship visit. In the afternoon of the same day, the Cuban delegation headed by Filiberto Ankin met with Lao officials of the Telecommunication and Post Office. Views on strengthening the cooperation and mutual assistance between the two countries were exchanged at the talks. [Text] [BK291126 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 29 May 82] Vientiane, 1 Jun (OANA-KPL)--The Cuban

telecommunications delegation headed by Filiberto Ankin, head of the Technical Development Department, left here on May 31 after concluding a 5-day visit to Laos. The Cuban delegation, during its stay here, met the Lao telecommunications authority where issues on strengthening of cooperation between the two countries' organizations were raised. The two delegations, in particular, centered their talks on the use of ground station of "Intersputnik," the printing and issuing of post office stamps, and the training of staffs. [Text] [BK010929 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 1 Jun 82]

CHILDREN'S DAY MEETING--Vientiane, 2 Jun (KPL)--A meeting was held here on June 1 to mark the International Children's Year. On this occasion, Phao Phimphachan, mayor of Vientiane city, addressed the meeting emphasizing the importance of children care during the past six years and the need to further carry out the obligation for mental and physical development. Phoumi Vongvichit, vice-premier, minister of education, sports and religious affairs, also addressed the meeting, stressing that the party and government have always considered the question of mother and child care as significant in the priorities of the state. Also present on this occasion was Phampheng Boupha, Central Committee member of the party, president of the Lao Patriotic Women's Association. In the evening of the same day the children art performance was put on at the national theatre. [Text] [BK021212 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 2 Jun 82]

YOUTH FESTIVAL--Vientiane, 31 May (KPL)--The 1982 youth festival held at the "Youth Friendship Park" was successfully closed on May 30, after 2 days running. The festival, participated by youth organisations from all over Vientiane City and from the armed forces, had their own displays of paintings, picture exhibition on political, economic and cultural activities. Youths and young pioneers also took part in varieties of sports and games, and artistic performances. According to Khamkong Keovongsot, member of the Standing Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, the 1982 youth festival was a spontaneous manifestation of the Lao youth to live in friendship, solidarity and harmony. The success of the festival also shows readiness and trust in the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. To mark the event, Sisomphan Lovansai, member of the Political Bureau of the LPRP CC and vice chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly planted souvenir trees and freed thousands of fish in the "Youth Lake." [Text] [BK311029 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 31 May 82]

BELGIAN MEDICAL AID--Vientiane, 28 May (KPL)--The "Belgian Bateau Pour l'Asie du Sud-Est" (Base), on May 26, handed over to Laos the third batch of medicines and medical equipment with the value of U.S.\$11,616. The medical equipment included hypodermic syringes and needles and x-ray equipment. Vannalet Latsapho, acting minister of public health, and Rosette Rogemang, secretary of base organisation, presided over the handing-over ceremony. [Text] [BK281303 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 28 May 82 BK]

PHONG SALY ROAD CONSTRUCTION--Vientiane, 28 May (KPL)--The bridge and road construction team of Parnamdao in the northern Phong Saly Province, during the first trimester of this year, repaired 50 km of damaged roads and built 3 km of a new road. A number of damaged bridges were also repaired by the team. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 28 May 82 BK]

USSR-AIDED ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT--Vientiane, 2 June (OANA/KPL)--A memorandum on carrying out feasibility study and expansion of rural electrification in 16 districts of Vientiane Province was signed yesterday between Laos and the USSR. This project designed by "Selenergo Proekt" and "Energosteproekt" research institutes of the USSR comes into effect till 1990. The signatories of the document were, on the Lao side, Sisom Phetsimuang, deputy head of the machinery and electric power department, and, on the Soviet side, A. M. Karpenko, head of the Soviet engineering team in charge of Vientiane rural electrification. [Text] [BK031155 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 2 Jun 82 BK]

MINISTER TO HUNGARY, CSSR--Vientiane, 1 Jun (OANA/KPL)--Latsami Khamphoui, deputy minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation, left here yesterday for the Hungarian People's Republic. Latsami Khamphoui will also pay an official visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic from June 3 to 27 [dates as received]. Latsami Khamphoui is due to hold talks with officials of both countries, which will culminate in the signing of contracts on animal husbandry and installation of a laboratory for animal feed analysis. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 1 Jun 82 BK]

AGRICULTURE DELEGATION TO GDR--Vientiane, 2 Jun (OANA/KPL)--The delegation of the Agriculture, Forestry and Irrigation Ministry, led by head of its office, Khamsing Sai-gnakon, recently returned home after attending the 12th congress of farmers of the GDR which was held on May 13-14. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 2 Jun 82 BK]

GDR-BUILT WORKSHOPS--Vientiane, 2 Jun (OANA/KPL)--The German Democratic Republic recently handed over bicycle and shoe repair workshops to the northern province of Luang Prabang. These include in the aid project of the GDR to Laos in which 12 workshops are to be built. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 2 Jun 82 BK]

VIETNAM-BUILT DAM IN LUANG PRABANG--Vientiane, 2 Jun (OANA/KPL)--A medium-size [word indistinct] in Khan River of Oudomsai District, Luang Prabang Province, whose cost was met by Ha Son Binh Province of Vietnam, was officially handed over to the Lao provincial authority on May 22. The construction of this weir, [which] started in January 1982, was in conformity with the signed agreement between the two sister provinces. A 1500 x 0.80m canal which can irrigate 150 hectares of ricefields was also dug at the same location with assistance of Vietnam. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 2 Jun 82 BK]

CZECHOSLOVAK FILM SHOW--On the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the Czechoslovak National Day, on the evening of 8 May, the Laos-CSSR Friendship Association and the CSSR Embassy in Laos held a film reception at the Vientiane Theater with the attendance of Sali Vongkhamsoo, secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, deputy prime minister and chairman of the National Planning Committee; Nhiavu Lobaliayao, member of the LPRP Central Committee, head of the party Central Committee Nationalities Committee, and president of the Laos-CSSR Friendship Association; several cabinet members, members of the SPC and the LFNC Central Committee, Czechoslovak Ambassador Ladislav Koccis, and members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of the international organizations in Laos. [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 11 May 82 BK]

SOVIET TU DELEGATION--After a 7-day visit to our country to attend the May Day rally in Vientiane, on the evening of 5 May the delegation of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] led by Comrade Klopov, member of the AUCCTU and chairman of the trade union in Gorgi in the Russian ASSR, left Vientiane for home. [BK100643 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 7 May 82 BK]

ANNIHILATION OF BEIJING HENCHMEN--In the past 2 months, cadres and combatants of Army Division "A" in the northern region carried out operations to defend the country and to maintain security along the northern border. We put out of action a number of reactionary henchmen of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists smuggled into our country to create disturbances among our people, and captured a quantity of weapons and military supplies from them. [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0400 GMT 5 May 82 BK]

PRK BANK DELEGATION--On the afternoon of 26 May, a delegation of the PRK National Bank led by its Vice President Chea Chantho arrived [in Vientiane] for a friendly visit to the LPDR at the invitation of the LPDR State Bank. During its visit, the delegation will exchange views and lessons on banking with the Lao side in accordance with the agreement signed between the two countries in February 1982. [Text] [BK270429 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 May 82]

CSSR NATIONAL DAY VISIT--On the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the Czechoslovak National Day, on the morning of 10 May representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Irrigation and the foreign experts management department of the prime minister's office led by Khamphet Phommavan, deputy minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation, presented a bouquet of flowers to Czechoslovak experts sent here to work for Laos at the residence of the economic counselor of the CSSR Embassy in Vientiane. They were warmly welcomed by Czechoslovak ambassador Ladislav Koccis and the Czechoslovak experts. [BK131221 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 11 May 82 BK]

CSO: 4206/52

RESUMPTION OF INDO-PAK DIALOGUE DISCUSSED

Talks Resume

GF061120 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Jun 82 p 5

[Editorial: "Resuming the Dialogue"]

[Text] The decision of the governments of India and Pakistan to resume their interrupted dialogue is a positive move which will be generally welcomed. When New Delhi unilaterally called off the officials' level talks scheduled for early March, the communications gap which has normally existed between the two neighbours widened. In view of the suspicions and misgivings which have marked Indo-Pakistan relations for decades, the importance of keeping the channels of communication open between the two countries cannot be over-emphasised. Moreover, in the difficult politico-strategic environment of South West Asia today, it is vital that the peace and security of the region is not further jeopardized by an increase in Indo-Pakistan tensions. The negotiations which were held in late January and early February in New Delhi between the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan created the climate necessary for reactivating the process of normalisation of relations. Hence, it is regrettable that this confidence-building exercise was interrupted before it could yield any result. In the intervening period, the confidence and goodwill generated by the New Delhi round dissipated and new misunderstandings cropped up.

Now that the two governments have agreed to resume their dialogue, it is logical to expect that they will pick up the thread from where it was left off at the New Delhi meeting. Thus, they will not be expected to cover the same ground again but should proceed on the basis of the understanding they have already arrived at in the last round. The major issue to come under discussion, no doubt, will be the mutual security concerns of the two countries. Islamabad's proposal for a non-aggression agreement is central to the security relationship between the two countries. Since they are already agreed that it is in the interest of regional peace to conclude such an agreement, they should now proceed to examine and work out its details. The treaty of friendship now being talked about by the Indian Government is premature as yet. Objective conditions for such treaty do not exist. The no-war pact, if it is concluded, will not militate against a friendship treaty. In fact, it could prove to be the vital first step in the development of a friendly relationship based on equality and reciprocity.

The no-war pact should be central to Indo-Pakistan negotiations. But this does not rule out discussions on the establishment of a joint commission. Agreement in principle on this was reached at New Delhi and it is felt that a joint commission should facilitate contacts between the two governments. A non-aggression pact and a joint commission are not mutually exclusive. But the no-war pact, being the key to Indo-Pakistan relations in the all-important strategic and political context, should remain the focus of negotiations. A meeting of minds between India and Pakistan on the importance of a nonaggression agreement has already taken place. It is now necessary that they build further on this initial understanding.

Decision to Resume Talks

GF041202 Karachi DAWN in English 2 Jun 82 p 1

[Article by M. A. Mansuri: "Pakistan, India Decide To Resume Talks"; date and venue to be settled later]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 1 Jun--Pakistan and India today decided to resume their discussions on the basis of the understandings reached between the two sides at the meeting of their foreign ministers in New Delhi in February last.

The decision was taken at a meeting here this morning between the two sides, led by the secretary-general, Pakistan foreign office, Mr S. Shah Nawaz, and the visiting Indian external affairs secretary, Mr Natwar Singh, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the meeting which lasted 90 minutes, the two sides discussed "a variety of subjects relating to bilateral and regional matters," an official handout of the Pakistan Government said. "The talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness," the handout further said.

The handout did not say when and where the talks will be resumed and what precisely will be discussed. But it was presumed in knowledgeable quarters that the dates for the resumed meeting will be finalised through diplomatic channels, and that it will pick up the thread from where it was left at the meeting between Pakistan's former foreign minister, Mr Agha Shahi, and his Indian counterpart, Mr Narasimha Rao.

The joint communique issued at the end of their meeting, which was held to discuss Pakistan's proposal for a non-aggression pact between the two countries, had said that the two sides had noted with satisfaction that the air had been sufficiently cleared to facilitate specific consideration of the elements which would constitute the substance of such an agreement. They had agreed that the talks would be continued at officials level.

The two sides had also decided at the New Delhi meeting, at Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's suggestion, to set up a joint commission which was to meet periodically to deal with bilateral relations.

Today's handout was silent on these points, but it was presumed that both these points would be pursued further at the resumed meeting. The venue and date for the meeting have yet to be settled.

The contents of Mrs Indira Gandhi's letter to President Ziaul Haq, which was delivered by Mr Natwar Singh when he called on the president last evening, were not disclosed to the press by either side.

Mr Natwar Singh is expected to leave back for Delhi tomorrow via Lahore.

CSO: 4220/54

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CHINA TEA GROWING EXPERTISE--Islamabad, 30 May--China-Pakistan cooperation in the field of tea growing is likely to open up possibilities to reduce this country's dependence on tea imports. Three tea experts from China--the birthplace of tea--are now here to help Pakistan start with its cultivation. Pakistanis hope that ultimately they should be able to do away with tea imports, at some stage, if all goes well. All tea is imported in Pakistan, valuing 110 to 120 million dollars a year. At that level, after edible oil, tea is the second largest food item imported. Tea imports are two percent of the country's overall import bill of over \$5 billion a year, says the Ministry of Commerce. Pakistan has the potential to plant tea over an area of 25,000 acres, out of an approximate 50,000 acres in the mountainous region. The hope for yield is 400 to 500 kilograms of dried leaves an acre. [Excerpts] [GF041112 Karachi DAWN in English 31 May 82 p 3 GF]

NEW RICE VARIETY (APP)--The government has approved for general cultivation a new high-yielding rice variety named as "lateefi." The variety has been developed by the rice research institute Dokri by crossing traditional sugdasi and irri-6 varieties. Its yield is 46 maunds per acre which is double the average yield of existing varieties. Besides being high yielding and disease-resistant, the new variety possesses much more aroma than the varieties now under cultivation in the country. [GF041153 Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jun 82 p 12 GF]

U.S. ARMS AID--American ambassador to India Harry Barnes has said the forthcoming visit of Mrs Gandhi to the USA and her talks with President Reagan will help the two countries make a positive impact on world problems. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi today he said the two leaders had made a very good beginning when they met at Cancun in Mexico in October last. Barnes welcomed the efforts of India and Pakistan to resolve their differences. On the supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan, he said it has been made clear to Pakistan that the assistance has been given because of the developments in Afghanistan. This assistance will stop if Pakistan explodes a nuclear device. [Text] [BK091603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0530 GMT 9 Jun 82]

ARMS, GOLD SMUGGLING--Brigadier Zuluqar Akbar Naqvi, director-general, Pakistan coast guards has claimed that the two launches which escaped into the Iranian waters on April 19 last had illicit arms on them. Talking to newsmen at its marine wing, Keamari, on Thursday, he said efforts were being made to have the two launches repatriated through foreign office. The launches had at least 400 crates packed with sophisticated arms and ammunition, according to 'unconfirmed reports,' he said. He said Pakistan Coast Guards had seized smuggled goods worth Rs.120 million in 1982 to date, including the biggest-ever seizure of gold (30,200 tolas worth Rs50 million) as against the total seizures made during 1972-81 viz. Rs.104.10 million. [Excerpt] [GF231155 Karachi DAWN in English 21 May 82 p 20 GF]

AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND--Pakistan's present ambassador to France Jamshed K. Marker has been appointed concurrently as ambassador to Ireland. [Text] [BK091149 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 8 Jun 82 BK]

CSO: 4203/141

TAMIL TERRORISTS KILL TWO

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 28 May 82 p 1

[Article by D.B.S. Jeyaraj and Norman Palihawadena]

[Text]

Two youths suspected to be members of the Umamaheswaran group, were mercilessly gunned down at Alaveddy yesterday morning.

Their bullet-riddled bodies were found in a paddy-field adjoining a road at Alaveddy.

One of the youths was a cultivation officer named Iraikumaran, who was earlier one of the leaders of the TULF Youth Front, the "Thamil Ilaingar Peravai" and had later broken away to form a rival faction.

The other youth, 29-year-old Umakumar was also from Alaveddy.

Police sources told 'The Island' that five persons had first come to the house of Iraikumaran and called him out. They had asked him to direct them to Umakumar's house.

Thereafter, they had come to Umakumar's house and were seen walking out, away with Irai-

kumaran and Umakumar, at about 11.30 pm on Wednesday night.

The bodies of the two youths were found in a paddy-field yesterday morning with Sub-machine gun wounds. Both had been shot in the head.

Police sources said that the brother of Iraikumaran and the father of Umakumar were in a position to identify some of the five youths who had come to the houses.

Police sources said that they were unable to ascertain whether the killing was a repercussion of the Prabhakaran-Umamaheswaran battle in South India or an extension of the terrorist feud here. Police, however, believe that both youths were either members or supporters of the Umamaheswaran group. The possibility of a personal clash between the members of one group, too, was not ruled out by the police.

CSO: 6133/0017

KRIANGSAK PARTY FACES FACTIONALISM, COULD STILL GROW

Challenge for Name

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 May 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by Yuwadee Thunyasiri]

[Text]

GENERAL Kriangsak Chomanan announced yesterday that he would press ahead with registering the National Democracy Party (NDP) as a legitimate party in spite of the challenge for the right to the party's name from a rebel faction.

Describing the dissident faction's claim to the party's name, the general said that though all the founding members had as much right to the name as himself, he was actually the only person entitled to the name because he was the one who demonstrated the wish to set up the party when submitting the application.

"The other members who affixed their signatures in the application are co-founders who merely shared a similar opinion," he stated.

Confirming his irreparable break-up with the dissident faction led by Samut Prakan MP Wattana Asavahem, General Kriangsak said that his group, from now on, will meet at his house in Bangkok instead of the office of the former Mass Line Party until the

party's permanent office on Montri Road is completed, he added.

In an exclusive interview with the *Bangkok Post*, the acting leader of

the NDP said that he felt sorry for the end of the alliance with Wattana's group. But he maintained that there is no way for him and Wattana to remain in the same party "because Wattana is not satisfied to remain in the party and because he has no respect for me."

He recalled an incident early this week when he had to wait until midnight for Wattana who asked to see him at his Bangkok house through his aide, Mr Piya Angkinant. Wattana never showed up, he said.

General Kriangsak said the meeting with 55 founding members at his home on Wednesday night was aimed to bring back unity and discipline. The meeting, he added, decided to sever its link with Wattana's faction.

Commenting on criticisms that he was not decisive enough and did not intervene quickly to settle the conflict in the party, General Kriangsak said that he did not

move immediately because no damage had been inflicted on the party. Besides, he said he wanted to let the "other

side show their colours first."

He insisted that he had always upheld principles as a basis of his actions. "I won't do anything without principles. I am sincere with everyone and I will not be the first one who deserts the others."

The general maintained that he was not naive, but had tried to resolve the infighting in the party by appointing a group of mediators to mend the rift.

"As an acting leader, whenever there is a problem my house is open to all alike."

In politics, he said it was not possible for all politicians in the same party to be clean. "There are white here and black there. It depends on how we can control them," he said, adding "There are problems in every party, so there is no need to repeat it."

Defending his role in calling a premature end to a party assembly late last month, General Kriangsak accused Wattana of breaching the

party's resolution by submitting a list of party's executive members — all of whom are MPs — to the assembly with Wattana himself being named the secretary-general.

He disclosed that Wattana's faction and the

other group previously made separate proposals regarding the executive members. The two proposals were rejected by the party and a free vote was held to finalise the issue.

Instead of accepting the party's ruling, Wattana submitted a list to the assembly, prompting him to call for a vote.

He continued that Wattana also held in his own possession a dossier of the party's membership and refused to return it to the party.

Commenting on criticism by Pol Maj-Gen Sangha Kittikachorn that he was incapable of resolving the party's infighting, General Kriangsak said: "One must not forget that there are others who are more intelligent, or more knowledgeable. Just speaking out without knowing the real situation shows that the speaker is unwise or not I don't know."

Severs Wattana Connection

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 May 82 p 1

[Text] SEVERAL MPs are likely to join General Kriangsak Chomanan in the National Democracy Party following his break-up with Samut Prakan MP Wattana Asavahem's faction, a source close to the party disclosed yesterday.

The source said the MPs were reluctant to join the NDP from the

beginning because they had reservations about Wattana's group. Moreover, it added that several non-MPs who are interested in politics had also shown interest in joining the party.

The source said he believed less than 20 MPs would desert General Kriangsak to side with the Samut Prakan MP.

The source continued that the meeting at the general's house on Wednesday night had appointed a new interim central committee led by Kriangsak as its leader, and comprises four deputies (ACM Dawee Chullasapya, General Lek Naewmalee, Ob Vasuratna and Prida Karnasuta) and a secretary-general, Wong Polnikorn, four deputy secretaries-general and 20 members.

PLEDGE

The committee's appointment is being considered by the senior members of the party before an official announcement is made.

Meanwhile, it was reported that three NDP MPs had resigned from the party, and pledged loyalty and support to Wattana. They are Chavalit Visetsitthikul of Ang Thong, Vanich Panichkriangkrai of Nakhon Nayok and Yutthana Pornsawan of Ubon Ratchathani.

Another party member, Mr Bannasomboon Mitpakdi, who is not an MP but a financial backer, also quit the party, citing his intolerance with the rift in the party.

In the meantime, Petchaburi MP Panich Sampavagupta said yesterday he was sorry that General Kriangsak had severed his alliance with Wattana's group in which he is a member.

"In fact, we had given General Kriangsak the opportunity to settle the problem, but he didn't do anything," he said, adding that their faction disapproved the appointment system in the party and had fought, without success, for an election of all key party posts.

He reiterated that their group would register the NDP within two months' time.

A party member, Mr Prathuang Vicharnprecha, said that a meeting of the party's founding members would be held in the next few days to ascertain if any of them are still loyal to General Kriangsak, or have joined Wattana's faction.

CSO: 4220/56

GOVERNMENT SCRAPS BID WON BY POLES

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 27 May 82 p 13

[Text] THE Cabinet on Tuesday decided to scrap the previous bidding called by the Alum Organization for construction of a new alum factory which was won by a Thai-Polish consortium.

The decision was in line with the recommendations of a study group comprising representatives of the Finance Ministry, Industry Ministry and National Economic and Social Development Board.

At the same time, the Cabinet instructed the organization to call a new bidding in accordance with international practice. Informed sources said the decision was based on the consideration that the bid offered by the Thai-Polish consortium at 518 million baht was much higher than 225 million baht as approved by the Cabinet earlier.

The Cabinet's decision spelled out that there were only three competitors in the previous bidding. They were screened from 14 companies seeking prequalification, the sources said.

The Cabinet did not believe that with only three bidders, the offer was the best one and would enable the state enterprise to have an efficient factory, the sources said.

It also pointed out that the small number of bidders might have been due to strict regulations and conditions laid down by the organization which was not in line with international practice. And these factors might have been the prime cause for discouraging other bidders from participation, the sources said.

The consortium includes Polimex-Cekop of Poland and M.H. Planning and Development Co Ltd of Thailand.

M.H. Planning earlier said that an arbitrary cancellation, without sufficient reason, of a regularly held international tender, would inevitably be interpreted as a "lack of elementary fair play and business integrity, thus damaging Thailand's reputation, at international level, as an honourable and reliable partner."

The consortium had extended the validity of its offer three times to await the government's final decision. The Cabinet set up the study team about two months ago after it expressed reservation on the capability of the Polish firm to implement the project in light of the present situation in Poland.

Informed sources said the Cabinet was of the view on Tuesday that the state enterprise had set a high penalty for delay in implementation. It was 0.002 per cent of the contract value per day until completion.

PRACTICE

"The Cabinet thinks that it was too high compared to the international practice which sets the penalty ranging from 0.0001 to 0.001 per cent of contract value," the sources said.

It also set up a new working group to organize a second round of bid in accordance with the regulations of the organization on procurement and contract award. The group comprises representatives from the Industry Ministry, Finance Ministry, NESDB and the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand which has experience in calling bids, the sources said.

The group will prepare bidding documents and arrange the opening of bids in line with the

regulations of the state enterprise. There will be changes in the scope of the project and the fixed budget of 225 million baht set earlier was cancelled.

The new budget will be in accordance with the successful bid. The Cabinet also asked the Alum Organization to adjust the sizes and number of its plant in line with what to be set by the working group.

The period for implementation of the project has been extended from 18 to 24 months after signing the contract, the sources said.

The Cabinet, however, expressed reservation that the delay would lead to the inability of the organization to cope with the demand for alum by water works authorities during the next five years because the existing plant is no longer efficient.

It instructed the organization to expand production capacity as necessary by using its own working capital up to 20 million baht.

Meanwhile, Deputy Industry Minister Dr Chirayu Israngkun na Ayuthaya said that the Cabinet had made such a decision because it thought the amount was far higher than the budget.

"It was the best consideration by the Cabinet," he said, adding that the new bid opening will allow as many bidders as possible and the government will not bar the Thai-Polish consortium from the new bidding.

Asked what the government would do if the consortium won the bid again but with a much higher amount, the deputy minister said: "This is a risk which we must take."

CSO: 4220/56

SENATORS, MPs SHOWDOWN ON CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES PREDICTED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 27 May 82 p 13

[Article by Sompong Tang]

[Text]

THE DRAFT bill on the amendments of the Constitution due for debate by Parliament tomorrow is expected to be a real test of strength between the elected MPs and appointed Senators.

One particular article which will certainly be the bone of contention deals with the balloting process for the next general elections. Their open divergent views on this point have made headlines during the past several months.

Most of the Senators appear to be in favour of elections based on the divided constituency system but candidates will be elected on a party basis. The MPs, however, also want a divided constituency system but that the candidates would be picked on individual basis.

Divided constituency system means that each of the provinces will be divided into different constituencies. And under the party system favoured

by the Senators, candidates will have to run in teams under party banners.

The past general elections were based on the balloting on individual basis.

The majority of the Senators, who happen to be army officers, argued that elections on party basis will indirectly force splinter political groups to disband and contribute to more stability for political parties forming a coalition government to run the country.

But the MPs claimed that such balloting method will encourage more "money-dumping" by major political parties.

"And only political parties with a sound financial base will win the election," said an MP.

The Constitution Amendment Bill was passed with an overwhelming vote by Parliament in January this year but the 39-member committee set up to scrutinize the bill was divided on its pros and cons.

Sources said that some of the Senators are trying to lobby for a secret ballot after the debate on the bill tomorrow so that "all the Senators can exercise their free will on the issue."

Senator Thammagoon Ladplee said the Senators were given a

"free vote" on the bill.

He was speaking to reporters after attending a dinner hosted by Premier Prem Tinsulanonda at the Army Club last week.

"The Senators will be making their independent decision on this important issue," he said.

Prayoon Suraniwongse (NDP-Udon

Thani) expressed confidence that if the attendance of MPs to-

morrow is good there

is a chance that they will win the vote. The

Constitution requires

at least half of the legislators present to

win the vote on this bill.

However, Prayoon

said he was concerned

at the prospect that

the MPs might have difficulty in winning the vote in the third session when the decisive vote must come from at least half of the Senators and MPs combined together.

"Then we will need at least 264 supporting lawmakers," said Prayoon.

There are 301 MPs but many of them hold different views on the balloting method and some also

side with the Senators.

Deputy leader of the Prachakorn Thai Party Pipob Asitirat said that the majority of MPs support the move for a divided constituency and the candidacy on individual basis.

He said the system favoured by the Senators excludes the voters' right not to elect particular candidates they do not advocate.

Responding to the Senators' argument that an election on party basis will benefit the political stability by forcing splinter parties to dissolve,

Pipob said that the Political Parties Law which will be enforced next year already serves similar purpose.

"The law requires every MP to be a member of a political party and that each of the political parties must field candidates at number no less than half of the Members of Parliament," he said. "This automatically means that only major parties will be able to contest in the elections."

The government-sponsored amendment bill also requires all MPs to become members of political parties 180 days after the Constitution is pro-

mulgated.

The Social Action Party (SAP) has sponsored a bill with similar content which demands that all MPs must become members of political parties within 30 days.

Parliament in January endorsed both bills. The scrutinizing committee later agreed that all MPs must become members of political parties 90 days after the Constitution is promulgated.

However, several Senators who are members of the scrutinizing committee have reserved their right to debate on the bills during the second reading tomorrow.

Sources in the Senate said that the meeting of Senators at the headquarters of the Central Security Command yesterday was designed to brief them on the pros and cons of the amendment bill.

"We only explained to them the benefits of the candidacy on party basis for the elections but it is left to them to decide," one of the sources said.

After the Parliament passes the bill tomorrow it will have to go through the third reading in 15 days.

CSO: 4220/56

UNITED STATES BASE POSSIBILITY CALLED 'BLUFF'

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 9 May 82 pp 6, 7

[Article: "Revival of Americal Bases; May it be Only a Bluff"]

[Text] The news that the Americans are going to return and set up bases in Thailand has been denied, but the repercussions and the events behind the story are still present, in this game of international politics.

Instant Denial

An A.P. report at the end of last month stated that John Gunther Dean, American ambassador in Thailand, revealed during a meeting of the U.S. Commission on Asian and Pacific Affairs that: "The U.S. is interested in opening American bases in Thailand to protect Southeast Asia."

The report went on to say that the bases would not be set up to resist Kampuchea, but to resist the threat from the southwestern part of Asia, that is Vietnamese troops stationed near the eastern border of Thailand.

"These bases would greatly increase Thailand's level of security," the A.P. quoted John Gunther Dean as saying.

However, after the news came out, the U.S. International Communications Agency in Bangkok (USICA) announced that there was no truth to it.

"Ambassador Dean pointed out that those reports were completely untrue. The U.S. never announced it would re-open its bases in Thailand."

General Prayut Charumani, Army Commander, said that no government officials at any level knew of this in advance. If there is any truth to it at all, it was probably just the personal view of Mr Dean.

"This is a matter of government policy that must be considered," the army commander said. "But the advantages and disadvantages internationally must be considered. In the past we have learned a lesson about keeping foreign forces in Thailand. This caused other nations to see Thailand in a bad light, particularly nations that were not our allies who saw us as a threat to our neighbors."

A Raise and a Big Bluff

One expert gave his opinion to SAPPADA WICHAN: "Those reports were meant to inhibit Vietnam because both Thailand and the U.S. know that in the dry season before the rains come Vietnam will gather its forces and make a strong attack on the Khmer Rouge, and that in order to wipe out the Khmer Rouge successfully they must come through Thailand and attack them from behind. Vietnam may seize the opportunity as in the incident of Nonmakmun.

"Therefore the U.S. is inhibiting Vietnam by saying that if they make any violent moves that affect our ally, Thailand, America is ready to come back," the expert commented on the report.

These comments are in agreement with what a spokesman from the U.S. Embassy in Thailand said. In the matter of defense and unity both sides have obligations that were agreed upon in the agreement of Thanat and Dean Rusk.

In addition, the border situation is still menacing; the smoke of war has not yet disappeared. Therefore Thailand is in a position where it must not be caught off-guard. It must keep its forces ready. Lt Naval Commander Prasong Sunsiri, secretary of the Security Council, said that if these circumstances continue, we ought to prepare to pay careful attention to certain locations at home, to beware of strategic locations, and to prepare to defend against invasions into our territory at such locations. In the event of such a plan, we must be prepared and able to respond.

The same expert went on to say that the news of American bases does not enable us to escape the dangerous border situation, and the fact that Thailand denied it shows that we will remain friendly with Vietnam if there is no infringement upon Thailand's sovereignty.

The Game of International Politics

One high-level military officer told SAPPADA WICHAN that not long before the reports that American bases were to be reopened in Thailand, Heng Samrin, who is backed by Vietnam, made a protest. Thailand has allowed foreign companies to drill for oil in the vicinity of the Gulf of Thailand, an invasion of the 200-mile off-shore limit, and Heng Samrin claimed that it was an invasion of his sovereignty.

"He always claims this or that, with no good intention. Therefore we can only keep silent and not respond at all," a news source said.

The news report continued that the words of the U.S. ambassador to Thailand were related to the posture of Heng Samrin, who accused Thailand of invading its sovereignty, while we don't know what concealed purpose he had.

"The report was a game of international politics in which we didn't lose anything," a news source said, and he emphasized that "the government's response didn't please me. In fact, they should have answered that they hadn't been approached yet. If they were approached they would discuss it. That's how they should have answered so that they couldn't guess our intentions correctly."

Advantages and Disadvantages

The military commissioner of the house of representatives analyzed the advantages and disadvantages of American bases being set up in Thailand. An advantage is that it would show that friendly relations between American and Thailand are still firm. Thailand would get up-to-date weapons, war materiel, and military hardware. Economically, an advantage would be increased income in the area of relaxation.

But, disadvantages are greater than the advantages. There would be an effect on national security. Thailand would be seen as weak. Efficient weapons and war materiel would cause unrest in neighboring countries, who would feel that they could be invaded or challenged at any time. This is of no benefit to the region. It would destroy relationships with other countries and the independence and sovereignty of nations and have a bad effect on traditions and culture, which are good things. And finally, it would destroy the neutral policies in the region.

"In the present circumstances, I believe there is no need to set up foreign bases in our country," Lt Commander Prasong said, and he reiterated: "I think we do not yet have a need. And the Americans don't want their forces sent anywhere."

In any case, the reports of bases being set up in Thailand, I repeat, are not true or, in another way of putting it, there is no need at present. So may it only be news that was invented as a bluff, or just international politics.

9937

CSO: 4207/97

MISSILE, ROCKET RESEARCH AND TESTING REPORTED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 May 82 p 24

[Article by Kamon Pensrinukun]

[Text]

IT was a brave attempt at any rate. A team of young Thai scientists and engineers were determined to bring the kingdom one step closer to the age of computerised missiles.

On a clear sunny afternoon the group crouched near an electronic apparatus which was wired to a strange-looking metal structure housing a metre-long rocket some hundred metres away. Expectations were high at the Armoury Testing Site in Saraburi Province.

As the ignition button was pressed a thunderous explosion ripped through the air. The blast was followed by a spectacular sequence of unpredictable events. The men who saw their creation shoot off from the makeshift launching pad seemed to be caught in a momentary trance.

Unfortunately, instead of soaring into the air the rocket, with a firing range of about four kilometres, zig-zagged menacingly across the parched field, leaving a billowing cloud of thick black smoke in its path.

Just as the flickering vision (of Thailand entering the missile age) was about to crumble the cylindrical projectile eased its head up, made a stunning reverse loop, dipped momentarily and soared magnificently skyward.

Everyone sighed in relief, said Dr Kosol Petchsuwan, the energetic dean of King Mongkut Institute of Technology (Lard Krabang campus), recounting one of KMIT's test launches.

Having closely monitored the performance of the rocket that day KMIT engineers retreated to their machine workshop in Lard Krabang, figured out what was amiss and soon came up with better rockets.

With the continuing research and vigorous experiments — some highly successful — KMIT engineers hope that one day Thailand will be able to produce its own missiles.

Like their contemporaries in other science researches they are faced with set-backs, particularly a shortage of capital and plenty of critics.

Considering the multi-million baht sum being spent on foreign-made armaments each year the sum of about 100,000 baht allocated to the KMIT rocket programme last year makes it sound something like a joke.

The significance of this important research has not gained much attention from high-ranking government officials although the situation is looking brighter.

Some military leaders have shown increasing interest in the programme, Dr Kosol said.

One reason for the renewed interest according to Dr Kosol is the Falklands crisis. "It has

showed that present and future wars will be fought with missiles. We are expecting more money to work with next year," he said.

Although capital shortage is a major obstacle for KMIT research-

ers, critics of the programme have had an even bigger impact.

Thai people are their worst enemy, he said curtly.

"We are often asked if we can emulate the foreign model," recalled Dr Kosol. "This only adds up to our frustration."

"When a foreign model doesn't function well they blame it on themselves saying that maybe it's because they are ignorant. But when locally-made instruments miss their mark they say it's junk," he lamented.

Dr Kosol believes that this psychological inferiority complex has proved costly in some government quarters.

He pointed to the "Highway-men" brand computer purchased from abroad to coordinate traffic light signals in Bangkok. He said the machine which cost 32 million baht has never functioned and is now left to rust.

According to Dr Kosol the machine is worth nothing more than scrap metal now.

Dr Kosol also expressed concern that the planned purchase of a millions-baht-worth solar cells system by a state enterprise may suffer the same fate.

Although experiments in rocketry have been gaining strength and KMIT is hoping to build a computerised rocket guiding system soon, a number of less glamorous researches which are geared to agriculture and industrial development have already gained wide acclaim.

Prize

KMIT's Rice Moisture Meter won the 1981 IBM Prize for Technological Research and Development.

The meter, which is capable of determining the moisture content of rice and other grains, was selected from among 32 entries. By using the meter the farmer stands to get a fair price for his paddy based on the percentage of moisture content.

KMIT engineers are trained to be realistic.

After two years of toil, master's degree student Somasak Cheirsirikul successfully built Thailand's first laser apparatus.

The machine powered by a powerful stepped-up transformer was a gas type and used a mixture of helium, nitrogen and carbon dioxide. During the demonstration the invisible laser beam emitted by the machine bored a hole through a thick plastic block within a few seconds.

Other areas of research are gaining ground at KMIT include the solid state and solar cell technologies.

It is evident that to these young men, there is no shame in failure if one tries. To them surrendering a goal without trying is not only unjustifiable, it is a betrayal of their duty.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Thailand Landsat system belonging to the National Research Council is situated on KMIT campus and is partially manned by KMIT graduates.

Minutes before the countdown, Air Force officers and KMIT engineers gave the rocket a final inspection.

Billowing cloud of thick black smoke remains behind after the rocket has been fired.

Traffic signal computer system conceived at KMIT in Lard Krabang.

Dr Kazunori Sato of Tokai University, a solar cell specialist, watches KMIT graduate student Somchai Vonmetta preparing semi-conductor plates for the oven.



KMIT engineers
prepare the
rockets before
the test
launching



CSO: 4220/65

THAILAND

SPOKESMAN DISCUSSES SRV, ASEAN, SON SANN, FALKLANDS

BK241024 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Commenting on Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's statement made in Brussels that Vietnam is interested in joining ASEAN, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chet Sutcharitkun said ASEAN countries and Thailand would favorably respond to Vietnam's wish if Vietnam is sincere and willing to abide by the purpose and principles of ASEAN. This is because Vietnam is geographically in the ASEAN region. Thailand, he said, wishes to have smooth relations with Vietnam. Yet, a major obstacle to achieving smooth relations between Vietnam and Thailand as well as other ASEAN members is Vietnam's armed aggression and occupation of Kampuchea. The Foreign Ministry spokesman, however, viewed the Vietnamese foreign minister's statement as propaganda rather than Vietnam's real intention.

Concerning progress in the effort to set up a coalition government among the various Kampuchean resistance factions opposing Vietnamese occupation, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thailand and other ASEAN members left it to the three Kampuchean resistance factions to work it out. ASEAN countries only provide the venue for them. He said Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila met with Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, 2 weeks ago and on 23 April Son Sann left Bangkok for Singapore and Malaysia for talks on the tripartite negotiations. It is, therefore, believed that a meeting of the three Khmer factions can take place before the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting. It is also hoped that Son Sann may accept to meet with the other Khmer factions following his rejection of a meeting with the leaders of the two other Kampuchean factions in Beijing.

Mr Chet Sutcharitkun rejected as incorrect the charge by some that Thailand has no clear-cut stand regarding the Falklands dispute between the United Kingdom and Argentina. The Foreign Ministry, he said, has made clear its stand of disapproving the use of force to settle disputes between nations and supporting a peaceful settlement of the problem through negotiations. Thailand has also supported the United Nations' resolution on the Falklands dispute.

CSO: 4207/105

DISADVANTAGE TO THAILAND SEEN IN JOINT OPERATIONS WITH MALAYSIA

Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 8 May pp 30-34

[Article: "Thai-Malaysian Joint Operations: From Joint to One-sided Action"]

[Text] Joint Thai-Malaysian operations to suppress terrorists in the border area between the two countries, which have been criticized by Thai experts for quite a while as being disadvantageous, seem to be decreasing in importance. The joint operations have nearly disappeared over the past 2 or 3 years. There have been a great number of important Thai news reports and military and political analyses saying there are many disadvantages to the Thai government in the joint Thai-Malaysian operations.

The military reported data concerning several types of relationships: between political parties in Malaysia and the Southern Secessionist Movement, data concerning the incidences of Thai Muslims emigrating to Malaysia, claiming that they couldn't stand the intimidation of the Chonchin Communists (Malaysian Communist Party), and data concerning the fact that Malaysia is trying to improve its economic base in the border region and make economic changes to favor Malaysia more.

This data has caused the Committee to Study Thai-Malaysian Border Problems to review its data, and the extent to which we should cooperate with Malaysia has become a matter of importance.

Documents from the Central Intelligence Department, central headquarters of the supreme commanders of the military show that the cooperation with Malaysia to suppress the "common enemy" has existed since 1949. At that time the Ministry of the Interior was in charge. Important moves were made in the cooperation between the two countries in an agreement on 12 March, 1965 to negotiate standards for the peace and safety of the citizens of the border region between the two countries. An important aim was to resist the menace and expansion of influence of the Chonchin Communists, who were a more direct enemy of Malaysia.

After that agreement two committees were set up, a general border committee and a regional border committee. A news-filtering agency was set up in Songkhla province that did special work relating to the operations of the Chonchin Communists in the area, but it was unable to support the work of the Department

of the Border Region, and so it was disbanded, and the Regional Border Committee was set up on 1 January, 1968.

The substance of the agreement allowed police officials to pursue Chonchin Communists who escaped across the border within a 5 mile radius. These operations caused severe problems for the Thais. The Chonchin Communists attacked from the Malaysian side came into the Thai border region in increasing numbers.

Because the agreement was not entirely satisfactory and because of new moves of the Communist Party of Thailand in the border region, there was a new agreement on 7 March, 1970 in which command headquarters of the special joint forces were set up in each category responsible for suppression operations of the Chonchin Communists along the border. Suppression was to be carried out according to the laws of the home country.

Later, during the term of Mr Thanin Kraiwichian, there were problems with the agreement of 7 March, 1970. Thais along the border were dissatisfied, especially in Betong precinct, where there were protests and Malaysian police were expelled from the country. During the Thanin era a new agreement was drawn up on 5 March, 1977, making several important changes and creating new joint operations by dividing operations into three types: 1) combined operations; 2) coordinated operations; and 3) unilateral operations.

The most effective part of the joint operations in the past has been the suppression of the Chonchin Communists. We have been able to destroy many of their camps, which is of great advantage to Malaysia, but the increase in terrorist acts by the secessionists, whose operations in two places resemble those of the Chonchin Communists, still makes the Thai supreme commanders uncomfortable. And Malaysia has not been able to give a firm promise to unite with the Thais to suppress the secessionists. There may be problems within Malaysia itself or some reason we don't know. Thailand is becoming more and more uncomfortable.

Thai news analysts received much data suggesting that the secessionist movement actually has a base of operations in Malaysia and is receiving support from some influential groups there.

Thai officials have attempted increasingly to call on Malaysia to take responsibility for these problems while Thailand would take responsibility for problems with the Chonichin Communists, but what operations are actually aimed at the secessionist movement is unclear, especially as those rightist Muslims who reinforce the actions of the Thai secessionists in Malaysia have become more influential.

In addition, after the joint Thai-Malaysian operations, Thailand found that actually terrorism on the Malaysian side of the border decreased, while at the same time, operations of both the Chonchin Communists and the terrorist movement in Thailand increased.

Thailand's discomfort has increased recently as it has learned that the secessionist movement has had growing room in Malaysia to expand its operations

into Satun province in Thailand and is likely to continue to expand. At the same time, the Chonchin Communists have spilled over into Thai territory, using Thailand as their base of operations as before.

We need not mention the budget for the joint suppression, the results of the suppression in terms of loss of war materiel and officials during the period of joint suppression. Thailand has begun to review the policy, and most recently reports have appeared that Thai officials have asked for a "suspension of joint operations." Aside from that, Thailand has placed greater emphasis on the importance of Thai-Malaysian border problems.

Currently Lt General Han Sinanon of the 4th Army Region has the greatest knowledge of Thai-Malaysian border problems. He set a goal before taking his post in the 4th Army Region that there must be fairness, not greater advantage to one side or the other, in the solution of border problems of the two nations.

Now, as a first step, the supreme commander is pressing to send more Thai officials to be stationed in Malaysia to strengthen the news-filtering activities of Thai officials in Malaysia, which will bring about changes in the joint Thai-Malaysian operations so as to bring greater advantages to the Thai government.

Besides the problem of terrorism, officials are looking at economic problems of the border regions and crime in the area.

Suppression by joint forces has been decreasing recently, but there is still probably "coordination," using the forces of one side in each area. Malaysia's rapid economic development and political stability are lessons to the Thai military that if no suitable agreement is reached concerning the "political and economic conditions" of the two nations, the Thai border will be the site of increasing terrorist problems, problems between Chinese and Muslims, and outbreaks of war between various terrorist forces.

It is believed that the disappearance of joint suppression operations for a while was a new signal that in these operations there must be a better, more fair cooperation. The cooperation between the two must be one of equality, of allies, not using the other sides weak points to one's own advantage.

The new face of the cooperation to solve problems of the border between the two nations should be brighter. But how much the Thai government will profit will depend on internal considerations, whether Thailand will be able to build political and economic stability on a par with the nation with which it shares a border.

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CSO: 4207/97

THAILAND

'THAI RAT' EDITORIAL ON TOXIC CHEMICALS USE

BK171023 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 17 Apr 82 p 3

[Editorial: "Yellow Rain--A Disaster"]

[Text] The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok has reported that it has in its possession samples of toxic material which were collected in Laos. The samples were the so-called "yellow rain" or mycotoxin. The samples will be analyzed in order to verify the use of such toxic chemicals in Laos and Kampuchea. In this connection, Thai authorities have also warned the people along the border to be careful of toxic chemicals.

The use of toxic chemicals in Laos and Kampuchea has been denied despite the existence of toxic chemical victims--civilians and soldiers. ABC television, which is a private mass media, has produced a documentary film about the use of toxic chemicals in Afghanistan by Soviet troops and in Kampuchea and Laos by Vietnamese troops. The film shows areas where the chemicals were used, victims and methods of use.

The Thai military reports that from 1978-1981 yellow rain was used in the plain of Jars and Xieng Khouang in Laos, killing 6,310 Lao. Some 981 Kampucheans were killed in Kampong Speu, Kampot, Koh Kong and Kompong Chnnang, while 305 were killed in Siem Reap and 673 in Battambang. Some 3,042 people were killed by toxic chemicals since the beginning of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Although there is no clear evidence of the use of toxic chemicals, accounts by victims and medical reports show that such use exists. The U.S. statement on the presence of samples should help to confirm the violation of the Geneva convention which prohibits use of toxic compounds by warring parties.

Should the USSR and Vietnam, confronted by evidence, continue to deny their use of toxic chemicals and refuse to take any action, they will demonstrate to all that they are the violators of the Geneva convention and the perpetrators of crimes against the people--civilians, women and children--who are not connected to the fighting in any way.

CSO: 4207/105

THAILAND

MEKONG RIVER INCIDENT REPORTED

BK281520 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] At 1905 on 26 April RTN Patrol Boat No 332 from the naval station in Mukdahan district intercepted two infiltrators carrying an AKA rifle near Don Sawan, Ban Na Bua Tnoi, Mukdahan District, Nakhon Phanom Province. While towing the boat and the infiltrators to the naval station, the RTN patrol boat came under two submachinegun fire attacks by LPDR troops on Don Sawan Island. The skipper of the boat, petty officer Sonthichai Lekhawat, was killed; the patrol boat's machinegunner, petty officer Nakhon Chom Khokkruat, was shot and fell into the river and is also believed to be dead; and the signal officer of the boat, petty officer Suchat Wannasakun, was shot in the stomach and seriously wounded. The infiltrators jumped into the river and fled away leaving their AKA rifle. RTN patrol boat No 3107, which was also on patrol at the moment, came to its rescue and brought the dead and wounded to Mukdahan Hospital.

After the incident, the LPDR sent one PBR boat on patrol in the Lao side near the site of the attacks. The Mekdahan naval station, meanwhile, sent RTN patrol boat No 117, No 387, No 3107 and an armoured car No 50 to be stationed at the site of the incident in readiness for retaliation and to search for the missing petty officer Nakhon Chomkhokkruat. Concerning casualties, the craft's M-60 machinegun, the craft itself, the radio antenna and the craft engine were damaged.

The operation of the Mekong River patrol unit is aimed at safeguarding national security without any intention of production or aggression against anybody. The above report clearly shows that the Mekong River patrol boats were unfairly victims of attacks--resulting in the losses of lives and property--against their mission to stop infiltration from other countries. The party provoking such an act of hostility must bear full responsibility. The Thai armed forces have taken measures in readiness for due retaliation.

CSO: 4207/105

ARRESTS, TORTURE, MURDER OF SUSPECTS SAID TO CONTINUE

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 9 May 82 pp 19-21

[Article: "Special Report: Secret Arrests in Thailand"]

[Text] The United Nations Commission on Human [Rights] recently made a resolution to condemn the flagrant violations of human rights by government officials in various nations through "secret arrests," and SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN has revealed data and examples from various countries.

Then, there is the story of secret arrests in Thailand, from the time of Police General Phau Siyanon to the present, which shows that Thailand is in the forefront in "secret arrests," ahead of many of the world's dictatorships.

Has the principle of mercy instilled in the hearts of all Thais been "secretly arrested?" Where has it gone?

"My son disappeared from home on 25 December with his uncle. I don't know where they went. He said, 'Mother, I'm going to do some errands,' and he still hasn't returned."

These are the words of Wimon Phianthamdi, a blind woman of 54 years of age who was captured on 10 January, 1982 on charges of having participated in Communist activities and who was imprisoned temporarily at Bankhen Police Academy, at the time under military jurisdiction. She told of the disappearance of her son, Mr Kamon Phiantamdi, and her younger brother, Mr Phongsak Thirapathara-phaibun, since 25 December, 1980.

"On 25 December there were no incidents involving arrests. There were only the arrests of two kids for entering such-and-such third year technical school, right. Their homes were in Phrakhanong, right?" Miss Phenrung Thirapathara-phaibun described the words of a police official at Central Radio of the Royal Police in front of Fort Jiraprawat, Nakhonsawan. When she and other relatives made their search for her brother and nephew, from the above words of the above-mentioned official she believed they had been captured by police because the description of the two individuals and the vehicle given by police matched that of Mr Kamon and Mr Phongsak. Therefore, she and the other relatives went on to question officials at various center, military and police, such as the Information Center of Phitsanulok province, Fort Jiraprawat, and the special security police. But, they received denials from officials, who said they had not arrested the two. From 25 January, 1980 to the present, over a year,

relatives received no word of the two. They were not sure whether they were still alive or had been executed. But they believed that they had been arrested by officials for several reasons.

The disappearance of the two is an example of the many cases of mysterious disappearances that occurred in 1981. It is figured that the two individuals were secretly arrested by government officials. The secret arrest is one method by which government officials can suppress citizens who are or are suspected of participating in communist activities. In Thailand today the secret arrest is becoming a new trend in the violation of human rights, as in many nations. It appears that the secret arrest is used as a tool to suppress citizens with views different from those of the government or local officials. Many citizens are arrested and taken away, leaving no trace. Sometimes they are freed afterward. Sometimes they are arrested and their relatives don't know why and don't know their fate for many years. And many unlucky people are executed after secret arrests. The government or the officials responsible usually claim they have no knowledge whatsoever.

Secret Arrests in Thailand are not a New Thing

Actually, there have been secret arrests in Thailand for a long time, ever since the era when Field Marshal P. Phibunsongkhram was prime minister and Police General Phau Siyanon was still in power. That was the time when the U.S. began to extend its influence and dominance into Thai politics. National leaders were made to believe that communists were the most important enemies of the government and would have to be suppressed by any means and that Communists had penetrated into all circles, students and politicians, for example. And at that time, Police General Phau had a desire to suppress all people in the opposition. So, a large number of civilians, government employees, and politicians, who were seen as adversaries of the government were suppressed, being charged as communists. All methods of suppression were used: political arrests and imprisonments, ambushes, assassinations, as well as the secret arrest.

The secret arrest of that time might be called the secret arrest and execution. It was performed by police officials. The person was secretly arrested and then executed by various methods: by strangulation, the corpse disposed of in the water or burned, or by burning alive. These people who were arrested secretly and executed were usually in the government opposition but were charged with being communists. After they were arrested, nothing was heard of them again. For example, there was the incident of the four former ministers. Mr Chamlong Daoruang, Mr Thawin Udon, Mr Thongin Phuriphat, and Dr Thongphaew Cholaphum, who were arrested and killed on 4 March, 1949; the incident of Mr Tiang Sirikan, a representative, and five others, who were killed and disposed of in the water on 14 December, 1952; the incident of Mr Phon Malithong, a representative, who was asked to come to the second division of the special security police, and then was taken and killed and thrown in the water on 23 March, 1954.

Then, during the period when Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon and Field Marshal Praphat Charusathiam came to power, the U.S. influenced and interfered

in Thai politics quite a lot. Command Headquarters for Communist Suppression were set up at the recommendation of the U.S. in December, 1965 to prevent and suppress communism. The U.S. gave financial support. It later became the Administrative Headquarters to Suppress Communism and then the Administrative Headquarters to Protect Internal Security in October, 1971, in order to increase its jurisdiction and power of suppression.

From there the movement to suppress innocent citizens began to be used by officials at the local level under the power of the law against communist activities, which was first used in 1950. It was used as a tool in the beatings to death of many ordinary citizens for several purposes: to bring about conditions in which to receive a budget, because if an area is proclaimed an infiltrated zone, officials in that zone are budgeted for the suppression of communists, which is a great advantage; or to get rid of dissenters against advantage and local influence; or to arrest individuals because of personal differences and then to charge them with being communists and use various methods of suppression against them. Volunteer Centers to Protect the Safety of Villages were set up, which were para-military centers that operated locally, enlisting roughties and bullies or former gangsters and teaching them to use weapons and giving them power to suppress. Village people were assassinated, homes burned, and arrests and tortures of all kinds took place, as well as secret arrests and executions.

Kicking down the Mountain, Burning the Red Barrel [Burned Alive]

The methods of execution called "kicking down the mountain and burning the red barrel" are methods of arrest and secret execution used in the southern provinces, especially in Phatlong province between 1971 and 1972. In these methods local suppression officials, consisting of soldiers, police, border police and volunteers, imprisoned people on a list of those accused of participating in or supporting communist activity, being spies, or having contacts with communists. The method of arrest might be imprisonment, informing the person he is accused of being a communist or not informing him, or asking him to go have a chat, taking him to the place called command headquarters or administrative headquarters. Then he is interrogated and tortured until he is willing to confess to being a communist. Methods of torture are, for example, pressing the temples, knocking the nails, pressing the testicles, plucking the nails, shooting a gun by the ears, or burning the private parts. Then, in the middle of the night, he is forced to sign a document saying he was released, which indicates he will be taken and executed in the red barrel, being beaten black and blue and then stuffed in a red barrel. Then gasoline is poured in and he is burnt to the bone and disposed of in the woods. After that, there is no news of that person again. When relatives look for him and make inquiries, the officials say he wasn't arrested or he was released. It is estimated that by these suppression methods in Phatlong province during 1971-1972 3,000 people were arrested and burnt alive in red barrels.

Besides the method of burning the red barrel, there were arrests followed by execution by being kicked out of helicopter or shooting. There have been reports of many cases of villagers who disappeared and whose corpses were

found in fields, forests, or caverns. The corpses had the head or arms cut off, mutilated beyond recognition. This type of suppression occurred in Phatlong, Pattani, Songkhla, Trang, Suratthani, and Nakhonsithamarat provinces.

The Second Wave of Suppression of Citizens

After the changes of 14 October, 1973, some of the suppression in various locations diminished. From October 1973 to October 1976 was a time when people of all groups and all types rose up and called for justice, rights and freedoms. After the coup of 6 October, 1973 [sic. 1976], starting with the period of Thanin Kraiwichian, the wide suppression of citizens was renewed. There was a great purge of all politicians, journalists, labor leaders, farmers, peasants, students and citizens who were seen as opposition to the government. They were arrested and imprisoned, shut up and forgotten, tortured, or secretly arrested and executed, accused of being a danger to society or communists.

For example, in the southern provinces many were secretly arrested. Among them were leaders who were loved by local villagers, as in the case of the three monks. Phra Klom Chantathammo, former assistant to the village headman of Pakkwian village group 5, Phipun precinct, Nakhonsithamarat; Phra Prakop Arayo; and Phra Mun Parisutto were invited by volunteers to their camps for questioning and then strangled. Their corpses were burned on 20, March, 1977. Later relatives made inquiries, and officials said they had escaped. There was the case of Mr Phitak Praraman of Pattani, who led villagers in protest of the incident in which a neighbor disappeared and was imprisoned, accused of not having an identification card on 30 October, 1977 in Tonyongmat district, Pattani, who later disappeared himself. There was the case of Mr Hadj Arong, an Islamic leader who was arrested and accused of not having a driver's license in November 1977 and then disappeared; the case of the headman Somchit Morasin of group 9, Phromlok precinct, Phromkhiri, Nakhonsithamarat, who was taken by marines to talk at their base of operations and then disappeared in November, 1978; the case of Mr Prayun Kaewprachu, district chief of Prian Sichon district, Nakhonsithamarat, who was arrested by marines and secretly executed on 1 September, 1979.

In addition, there may have been people who lived justice who came into conflict with local advantage and influence, as in the case of Mr Iam Sanghakun, a reporter for the newspaper MUANG THAI in Nakhonsithamarat, who was arrested and locked up and executed. His corpse was found buried together with two others who had been executed, accused of being communists.

In addition, there are the many who were suspected of being communists or supporting communists, who disappeared in the south. It is understood that they were secretly arrested by military officials, police, or volunteers, as had occurred earlier.

Aside from the secret arrests of citizens by local soldiers, police or volunteers, there was suppression by death squads. These death squads were supported by the Headquarters to Protect the Internal Security as their unit of operations in the villages. They were chosen from among local bullies, given weapons and power to suppress. Many citizens fell victim to these death squads. Some of these death squads were involved in secret arrests between 1977 and 1979 in the south.

These death squads later developed into the Volunteer Thahan Pran Irregulars. The Thahan Pran Irregulars are para-military units that stand opposite the regional troops under the control of the army. Their operations during 1978-1981 caused trouble for many innocent citizens, as is known. The Thahan Pran units used the method of secret arrest in many cases.

From 1980 on it appears that the method of secret arrest has been used on people suspected of being communists or those who had joined the communist party and then left and gave themselves up. These people were secretly arrested without any official record. They were arrested in joint operations of military intelligence and special security police without any official record and taken to be confined in places no one would know of. It might have been a military or police prison or just an ordinary home. It was just a place to confine people and hold interrogations. Sometimes people were confined for indeterminate amounts of time, as in the case of Mr Kamon Thiraphataraphaibun that we have mentioned.

Or, in the case of Miss Darani Panyabutsayakun, a law student at Ramkhamhaeng, relatives of the student notified the Attorneys Association of Thailand that the student Darani had disappeared from home. Later there was a report that she was released after having been imprisoned by officials of the special security police for a while with two friends.

Or, there was the case of Mr Silapasot Phothigaew, former secretary of the law students association of Thailand, who had joined the CPT. After the events of 6 October, 1973 [sic. 1976], he left to continue studies at Sinakarinwirot Prasanmit University. He disappeared in February, 1981, and relatives believe he was arrested by officials. Later news reports said that Mr Silapaset had died, with a bayonet wound in his neck.

Conclusion

It can be seen that the method of secret arrests was used as a tool in the suppression of opponents of the government or people suspected of being communists, but it seems that many innocent citizens have fallen victim for various reasons, because they haven't been able to call for their legal rights. Relatives haven't been able to find out the fate of people who have been arrested. In sum, the method of secret arrest is a clear violation of human rights. All people who are arrested should have the legal right to a trial in a court of justice, naming the charges that he has been accused of. Suppression officials don't have the right to decide who is right or wrong. Relatives of an arrested person have full rights to know the fate of the person arrested. This type of suppression policy should be changed so as to be proper and just and fit for a nation that can be believed to have a democratic system of government and be a nation of mercy.

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POSSIBLE ISTHMUS OF KRA CANAL DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 8 May 82 pp 36-38

[Article: "Economy: Digging the Isthmus of Kra Worth Careful Consideration"]

[Text] Recently an MP from the Social Action Party, Dr Yupha Udomsak, and a portion of the MPs from the south secretly submitted a letter to the head of the Social Action Party and the prime minister recommending that the government consider carefully "digging the Isthmus of Kra."

The news appeared on the pages of many newspapers, although THAI RAT and the BANGKOK POST only had small stories. Not long after, columnists of various sides criticized the matter, claiming that the plan to dig the Isthmus of Kra would cut off the south. A large part of the reason for this is that the terrorism in the south from various sources could cause the destruction of the south.

But in fact the attacks of many of these newspaper columnists are miscalculated. The truth is that terrorism in the south is not an important issue in cutting through the Isthmus of Kra.

This is because those people's wars have changed a lot and the 4th Regional Army is in control of every aspect of the situation in the south. From the point of view of Professor Krikkiat Phipatseritham: "Rather, if the Isthmus of Kra is dug, it would bring about economic development. The tens of billions that would be invested in the construction and industrialization of the area of the Isthmus of Kra would bring about improvements in the economic development of the south."

Besides, the basis for terrorism in the south is not geographical but political.

Stopping construction [sic, terrorism] or the problems of war in the south takes political methods. And indirectly, cutting through the Isthmus of Kra and bringing economic development to the south would bring political development to the south, which of itself would unravel the problems of the people's war.

There are other more important issues than the problem of terrorism in cutting through the Isthmus of Kra.

High-level officials among the supreme commanders believe from studies of the navy that the pluses are outweighed by the minuses:

Cutting through the Isthmus of Kra around Ranong Province, the narrowest spot, would be immensely costly no matter how atomic or modern the technology used. The cost of the digging would be very expensive compared with the benefits to be gained. When compared with the Straits of Malacca, cutting through the Isthmus of Kra would shorten the navigation time by only about 6 hours, and there hasn't been much of a problem for merchant vessels at this time. The need at the Isthmus of Kra cannot compare with the Panama Straits or the Suez Canal, which shorten time of a cross-continental trip absolutely.

2. The water level between the two shores of the ocean in the vicinity of the Isthmus of Kra is uneven. Therefore, a system of water gates would have to be built to even out the water level at both shores before allowing sea-going vessels to cross the straits, and vessels would have to wait for the water level to be adjusted, which takes more time. In the end, the Isthmus of Kra would save only about 5 hours.

3. The Isthmus of Kra would create certain problems for the military in sending reinforcements from the central region to the south, slowing them down a little.

4. It is true that cutting through the Isthmus of Kra would give Thailand an importance in shipping routes through use of these straits, but at the same time it would cause increased economic competition between Thailand and ASEAN, especially Singapore. At the present time Thailand may be inferior to many many ASEAN nations in commercial ability and world market competition. Cutting through the Isthmus of Kra may actually serve as an acceleration for certain ASEAN nations, which would squeeze out Thailand and increase competition in other areas, which would be of great disadvantage to Thailand.

5. Administrative ability or supervision of the Isthmus of Kra with the sub-standard efficiency of Thai officials may not be sufficient to meet the target in terms of commercial vessels passing through. In addition, inefficient administrative mechanisms might cause gains from the Isthmus of Kra not to materialize as planned.

6. If we consider the military aspects, the canal through the Isthmus of Kra would cause Thailand to become more important as a military strategic location, which would increase the desire of the superpowers to seize or try to extend influence over the Isthmus of Kra in order to maintain a strategic route in the future. At present we must avoid conflict with the superpowers. The canal would cause Thailand to become more involved in conflicts with the superpowers.

However, there are also benefits to the construction of the canal. Many experts have given the following views:

1. The Straits of Malacca are now very shallow, and it is becoming a problem for ships to pass through. If the Isthmus of Kra is actually dug, its importance could be very great due to the problem of the Straits of Malacca.

2. Japan, which is a great power economically in Asia, has only one choice in transporting half of its oil to factories in Japan, going around the Straits of Malacca. Japan now has to give a lot of importance to ASEAN in order to protect its oil transport route to supply Japanese factories, because if there are problems with the Straits of Malacca, more than half of Japanese factories would have to be shut down immediately, and Japan's economy would be in great turmoil.

So, if there were another route through the Isthmus of Kra, that would give Japan a choice, and Japan in turn would have to give greater importance to Thailand, as Thailand would gain considerable power in economic bargaining with Japan. These are very important matters because Thailand has long been within Japan's economic sphere of dominance.

3. The importance to the superpowers is another matter for consideration. In the sense we mentioned before, Thailand might be drawn into the conflict over military strategic locations. But, in another sense, from observation of American moves in the region, America gives great importance in its Pacific naval strategy to the Indonesian Straits of Sunda which are deep-water straits. The importance of the Straits of Sunda has caused America to increase its economic and military aid to Indonesia greatly over the past 4 to 5 years. And, Thailand's importance to America has decreased.

Cutting through the Isthmus of Kra would give Thailand greater international bargaining power, depending on the foreign policy and diplomacy of the Thai government, which, depending on its ability, could use its strategic location to benefit the nation.

4. Cutting through the Isthmus of Kra would be very likely to cause changes in business, industry and economic development in this region, which could greatly reduce poverty in the south.

5. An important effect might be the greater role of the Thai navy in the protection of ocean resources, which are gaining in importance, and greater control over them.

These advantages and disadvantages should be analyzed and considered by the different sides.

From the point of view of Yupha Udomsak and the portion of the southern MPs in the Social Action Party who proposed the matter, if looked at as a proposal "for the government to review," which will press the government to see the importance of competition in the economic arena at a national level, then it is a matter which should receive more careful attention than if seen as just a group of people trying to cut off the south.

We must understand that today Thailand's economic development is inferior to many other ASEAN nations. Important projects that would change Thailand's

economic base should be reviewed by the government time and again and considered seriously in an attempt to develop economic power on a par with its neighbors.

In this sense the present proposal of the Social Action Party to dig through the Isthmus of Kra should be of particular importance in pressing the government to become interested in large projects that will raise the level of economic and political importance of the nation to that of its neighbors. As for what decision to come to, that is a large matter in which the many sides must bring together all the data, seeking to bring the greatest benefits to the nation.

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CASH CROPS MAY BE USED AS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 16 Apr 82 p 11

[Article: "Plan to Cultivate Energy Crops to Produce Alternatives to Oil"]

[Text] Thai industry is making progress in its search for energy alternatives to oil. Plans have been set to plant energy forests, using plants as the raw materials in producing fuel alternatives to oil.

Mr. Thanu Wicharangsarn, member and secretary of the committee to discuss alcohol manufacture from agricultural raw materials, revealed that the committee is now supporting a plan to plant "energy forests" in O.P.Ph. villages, consisting of giant wild tamarind trees. When the trees, which mature quickly, reach full size they can be used to produce fuel, especially by burning charcoal sticks to obtain gas to be used to produce electricity inside those villages.

"If we compare the cost of producing alcohol and purchasing oil for use, the cost is not very different, but an important objective is to enable the people to take the raw materials they have in their localities and combine them with their labor to reap the greatest benefits. For example, the sugar cane and cassava, which the people usually produce, bring a low price when produced in great quantities. Therefore they should use part for fuel and part to sell or eat. Then they would get a good price and benefit in all areas," said Mr. Thanu.

About this plan to encourage peasants to use the agricultural raw materials in their localities such as sugar cane and cassava to produce alcohol, Mr. Thanu said that the Ministry of Industry has now joined with the Army Research and Development Center in researching and in producing cheap machinery that the people could buy and use.

"We can now make a machine for about 1-200,000 baht. The production capacity is not great, but it is enough for use in the villages so that the agricultural raw materials planted on one rai will be able to produce 300 liters of alcohol per year. If a village produces ten rai worth, it will be enough for a whole year's use," Mr. Thanu pointed out.

NUMBER OF WORKERS IN MIDEAST EXCEEDS OFFICIAL FIGURES

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 27 May 82 p 4

[Text]

A GOVERNMENT fact-finding team has found that the number of Thai workers in three Middle East countries exceeds the official figures by over 55,000. And many of them are living in dire financial condition.

A senior labour official who came back recently with the team said most of the workers were sent there without approval from the Labour Department.

The team was the second dispatched by the government to have a first-hand look at the Thai labour situation in several Middle East countries.

Chirathorn Bunyarat, Chief of the Overseas Employment Services and Registration Division of the Labour Department, said Thai workers in Iraq are now prohibited to remit over 60 per cent of their income as part of the Iraqi Government's wartime

monetary measures.

The Thai workers were formerly allowed to send home between 70-80 per cent of their earnings, he said.

There is also prevalent shortage of food supplies because of the on-going war with Iran, he said.

While the official figure on Thai workers in Iraq was 10,000 the actual number discovered by the fact-finding team was over 20,000, he said.

The team, he said, also found that the actual numbers of Thai workers in Libya and Kuwait were 50,000 and 10,000 respectively. But according to official figures there were only 10,000 workers in Libya and 5,000 in Kuwait.

The fact-finding team, which made a separate trip to the Middle East with another team led by Deputy Interior Minister Vichien Vejsawan, was headed by Deputy Undersecretary of State for Interior Saneh Wattanathorn.

Chirathorn said the team officials also visited two Thai workers who had been

sentenced to life imprisonment in Kuwait after they were found guilty of taking part in a robbery and murder.

The two are Penchai Boonsaenpaen and Somsuan Mangchanthuek. Chirathorn said both appeared to be in good health and were getting used to the surroundings of the prison.

Penchai and Somsuan were arrested together with another two Thai workers who were hanged late last year for robbing and killing a local money changer.

Chirathorn said that worker associations or centres should be set up in countries which have no diplomatic relations with Thailand so that labour officials here can be informed of the activities of the Thai workers working there.

There are presently more than 200,000 Thai workers in the

Middle East. The findings of the team will be submitted to the Interior Ministry and the Cabinet.

The other fact-finding team which came back last week reported that more than 80 Thai workers are being imprisoned in Saudi Arabia. They were arrested mostly on charges of smoking or peddling marijuana.

THAILAND

EEC AGREES TO CONTROLS ON THAI TAPIOCA EXPORTS

BK070410 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 7 Jun 82 p 13

[Excerpts] Thailand and the European Economic Community (EEC) have reached agreement over the measures designed to control and check the country's exports of tapioca products to the European grouping.

The measures, effective this week, are under the agreed minutes signed on Friday between Director General Phat Itsarasena of the Department of Foreign Trade and EEC representative I. de Gruben.

They require Thai exporters to seek export certificates from the department and forward them to European importers to obtain import licences from EEC authorities.

Under the agreed minutes, EEC will deduct from Thailand's export quota if tapioca products imported into the economic grouping were re-exported to other countries in the same condition or as processed animal feed, he said.

Thailand will also verify the export volume from January this year by sending export statistics covering January to April to EEC.

The agreed minutes are part of the agreement Thailand has signed with EEC fixing tapioca exports at 5 million tons this year, 1983 and 1984 and 4.5 million tons each in 1985 and 1986. The measures followed the apprehension that Thailand's tapioca exports would exceed 5 million tons this year. The European Commission, which ratified the agreement a week earlier, has suspended for the next 4 months the issuance of import certificates.

The certificates guarantee in advance that tapioca consignments will be admitted into EEC at the low rate of duty of 6 percent, because they have been issued for very large quantities of the products.

The EEC decision was made with a view to safeguarding the arrangements covering tapioca imports from Thailand and other countries. Thailand exported 796,359 tons of tapioca products to EEC last month, worth 1,812 million baht. Total exports from January to last month amounted to 3,163,094 tons worth 7,365 million baht.

Meanwhile, Commerce Minister Punnamee Punsri said on Friday that the government will allow unrestricted tapioca exports throughout the remaining period of this year.

THAILAND

BRIEFS

CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS--According to the director general of the Foreign Ministry Information Department, Chet Sutcharitkun, in his capacity as the ministry spokesman, Canadian Foreign Minister Dr Mark MacQuigan will make an official visit to Thailand from 19 to 21 June at the invitation of Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila. This will be the first visit to Thailand of a Canadian foreign minister and a return one following Air Chief Marshal Sitthi's visit to Ottawa last April. [Excerpt] [BK031417 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 3 Jun 82]

'ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT' TOTALS--According to the Supreme Command, as of 28 April there were 170,006 Indochinese illegal immigrants in Thailand. Of this number, 76,222 were Kampuchean illegal immigrants who are under military control--22,961 in the Sa Kaeo Center, 39,430 in the Khao I-dang Center, 13,655 in Phraya Kamphut Center and 176 in the Khao Lan Center. A total of 14,983 Kampuchean illegal immigrants were in the processing center in Phanat Nikhom District, Chon Buri, and 3,263 were in the transit center. There were 284 Vietnamese illegal immigrants at the Sangkhla detention center and 4,088 in the Si Kheu detention center. These Vietnamese illegal immigrants were under the control of the Interior Ministry. There were 71,166 Lao illegal immigrants under the control of the Interior Ministry. Of this number, 6,598 were in the Chiang Khong center, 10,895 in the Pua center, 7,635 in the Mae Charim center, 31,087 in the Pak Chom center, 4,029 in the Nong Khai center, 10,922 in the Ubon Ratchathani center and 7,311 in the Nakhon Phanom center. [figures as heard] [Text] [BK011241 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 29 Apr 82]

INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR--On 3 June 1982, the Foreign Ministry announced that the government of the Kingdom of Thailand approved the nomination of Air Marshal Subambang by the government of the Republic of Indonesia as the new Indonesian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Thailand. [Text] [BK030714 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 3 Jun 82]

OFFICIAL RESERVES DECLINE--Thailand's payments deficit in March which was recorded at about 2,760 million baht caused the official reserves to drop by about 3,827.2 million baht. Kiattisak Micharoen, assistant director of the Bank of Thailand, disclosed that the drop in the reserves is not a

concern to the Bank of Thailand as it is expected that the balance of payments in the second quarter of this year would improve. [BK221209 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 22 Apr 82 BK]

EXPORTS TO U.S.--According to the secretary to the foreign trade department, in 1981 Thailand's exports to the United States under the Generalised System of Preference [GSP] totaled \$172.78 million, a great increase from the exports worth only \$104.22 million in 1980. This is due to a greater demand for Thai exports by the United States as well as Thai manufacturers' and exporters' interests in the GSP benefit. Top export income earners to the United States under the GSP in 1981 are sugar, plastic flowers, wood furnitures, tungsten, and leather goods. [BK221209 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 18 Apr 82 BK]

THAI-UK AVIATION TALKS--Yesterday Thai and British representatives began negotiations aimed at amending the aviation agreement between the two countries. The negotiations, which took place at the communications ministry, are expected to last for 3 days. Communications undersecretary of state M. L. Choengchan Kamphu, who is leading the Thai negotiators, disclosed after yesterday's session that it lasted 3 hours and that the Thai side brought up several issues for discussions. He expected the negotiations will take 3 days to complete. The head of the British governmental delegation is (A. K. Hudnt). The Thai side reportedly wants to amend the provisional civil aviation agreement with Great Britain. It seeks to cancel two stops on the Bangkok-London route flown 3 times weekly by Thai International. The provisional agreement will expire on 30 June. From 30 June onward twice weekly Thai International must make two stops on its Bangkok-London route and must make one stop on its remaining weekly flight. The stops on this route have caused a loss of income to Thai International. [Text] [BK011441 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 1 Jun 82]

NEPAL OFFICIAL VISITS--Nepalese Foreign Secretary Jagadish Shumshere Rana completed a 5-day official visit to Thailand on Monday [31 May] with reassurances of his support for ASEAN's effort to seek a negotiated political settlement of the Kampuchean problem. Mr Jagadish Shumshere was here as guest of the Thai undersecretary of state for foreign affairs, M. R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi. During the discussions with the Thai foreign undersecretary of state, Mr Jagadish Shumshere reaffirmed his country's support for the ASEAN declaration for the zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia. Both sides also agreed to encourage trade, investment and technical cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [BK020423 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 Jun 82]

ACTIONS AGAINST PRESS--The labour department will urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to make a formal protest to the British Government over "fabrications" in the London DAILY MIRROR's report about child slavery in Thailand, the department director-general, Wichit Saengthong, said yesterday. Meanwhile, he said, the police department is to be recommended to declare the reporter who wrote the story, John Pilger, persona non grata. The public relations department and the Thai News Agency will also be instructed to make statements correcting the story. On March 22 the DAILY MIRROR, a popular British tabloid, carried a frontpage report filed from

Bangkok by Pilger allegedly exposing Thailand's child slave trade. Pilger, an Australian journalist, claimed that he bought a 9-year-old girl in Bangkok for 85 pounds (about 3,400 baht) and took her back to her parents in Phitsanulok. After an extensive investigation, the labour department last week produced the girl, Ratcharin, and her mother Toi Nanthaphan, who said that they were hired by the journalists for a "film production." They said they were being used in a story that would defame the country's image abroad. [Text] [BK010113 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Jun 82 p 3]

THAI MAIZE EXPORT POLICY--It has been reported that the export of maize of the 1982-83 crop starting from July this year will be freed, with exports being permitted without prior approval from the foreign trade department. However, exporters will still be required to report their sales to the department. This was recently agreed upon at a meeting chaired by the commerce minister between officials of the Commerce Ministry and representatives of the Thai maize and produce traders association. The meeting also agreed at the same time that Thailand will continue its tradition in having long-term maize agreements with Japan and Taiwan. The board of trade instead of the foreign trade department, however, will represent local exporters in signing the long-term agreements with Japan and Taiwan. Where China is concerned, the two countries have already agreed that it will buy some 100,000 tons of Thai maize after October this year. Therefore, Japan, Taiwan and China will be agreement markets for the Thai maize, while exports will be allowed freely to markets other than these. [Text] [BK271431 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 27 May 82]

FRENCH OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE--French Minister of State and Foreign Trade Michel Jobert yesterday praised Thailand's continuing efforts to seek political solution to the Kampuchean problem. Jobert, speaking at a press conference to mark the end of his two-day official visit to Bangkok, said that there are three methods for dealing with the ongoing war in Kampuchea. They include the use of power, indifference and seeking solution through reasoning. Thailand has so far not abandoned the third method but instead pursuing with perseverance using economic and political means to end the conflict in Kampuchea, he said. [sentence as published] "Thailand and France have different approaches toward the seeking of solution to this conflict, but the two countries have the same approach in analysing the problem," Minister Jobert said. In his reply to a question regarding France's resumption of assistance to Vietnam, Jobert said the aid granted since 1977 has not been utilized due to war. Asked whether France intends to expand her assistance to Vietnam, Jobert said: "We will see the result first and decide whether we should expand." On a possibility of France's recognition of the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime in Kampuchea, Jobert said France's policy is similar to the European Community. [Text] [BK260304 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 26 May 82 p 3]

IRAQI DENIES MERCENARY REPORT--The Iraqi Embassy here has described the report about recruitment of Thai mercenaries to fight for Iraq as a "cheap propaganda" against the country. It denied that the Iraqi Government had asked foreign agencies to recruit volunteers to fight for Iraq in its war against Iran. "It is known that when the Iraqi Government needs Thai people to fight with the Iraqi army against Iran, the Iraqi Embassy is concerned about that and it is unbelievable that the Iraqi Government asked a Thai agency to do this without consulting the Iraqi Embassy," it said in a letter sent to SIAM RAT daily. The report about the alleged mercenary recruitment was publicized

by MP Songtham Panyadi (Chiang Rai) who claimed that the first group of 300 recruited Thai mercenaries were about to be sent to Iraq in the middle of this month. He said each of them was paid 60,000 baht in advance installment and promised a monthly salary of 10,000 baht. The Iraqi Embassy said that an advertisement about the recruitment in the paper was false. It said there was no office carrying the name as mentioned in the advertisement in Iraq. "It seemed to us that who has supplied your newspaper with this advertisement aimed at the destruction of the excellent relationship existed between the two countries so as to serve special purpose of this group," it said in the letter published in SIAM RAT. It added: "What has been mentioned is cheap propaganda against the Iraqi people and their government, and it is unacceptable to both friendly countries." [Text] [BK030359 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 3 Jun 82 p 6]

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